

Hafa Adai!

Community comes out in droves to support Green Gala. **PAGE 2**  
Leader of group testifies Chen not aware of drugs; defense also rests. **PAGE 3**

# Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVI, Issue No. 176

[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 5, 2016

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75¢

## FOR ALLEGEDLY EMBEZZLING GOVT FUNDS

# Rota Finance resident director arrested

- » **Hocog used Rota Municipal Treasurer checks to purchase cases of beer for her own benefit and to play poker**
- » **Lt. Gov. Hocog's son's signature allegedly forged in business license**
- » **Judge Kim-Tenorio allows defendant to post \$5,000 cash bail**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

Rota resident director for Finance Office and acting Rota Municipality treasurer Vivian Ogo Hocog was arrested and taken to Saipan on Friday for allegedly embezzling between \$15,000 and \$20,000 from miscellaneous and municipal treasurer accounts from July 2015 to May 2016.

Hocog, 54, was served with an arrest warrant on 10 charges—two counts of theft, theft by unlawful taking or disposition, theft of service,

theft by failure to make required disposition of funds received, forgery, misuse of credit cards and issuance

**See ROTA on Page 4**

## Torres wants CNMI to have say on allocation of CW workers numbers

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER

Allowing the CNMI to be part of the process in controlling the allocation of CW-1 number is among the things that Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and the Commonwealth panel in the 902 talks are requesting from their counterparts from the federal government.

Torres said that having a control

of allocation on the number of foreign workers was among the issues discussed during the second round of 902 talks held in Hawaii this year. Having control would prevent companies and other businesses to abuse and misuse it.

Last week, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security set the fiscal year 2017 CW-1 cap to 12,998. Torres said that reducing the num-

**See CW on Page 4**



## Torres signs proclamation commemorating 9/11

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
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REPORTER

The second week of September has been designated by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres as "We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes Recognition Week" during a proclamation signing

last Friday at the Governor's Office conference room on Capitol Hill.

The proclamation was made in order to pay homage to the many lives that were lost during the 9/11 incident, including the various members of the law enforcement officers, firefighters, police, first responders,

military, and veterans past and present. The proclamation was also named after the fundraising event being organized by the Tan Siu Lin Foundation.

Torres calls on the public to pay appropriate respect and to observe the various cere-

**See 9/11 on Page 4**

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres poses with veterans and officials of the Department of Public Safety and Department of Fire and Emergency Services as well as Tan Holdings officials led by COO and president Jerry Tan in front of the Governor's Office last Friday after declaring the second week of September as "We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes Recognition Week."

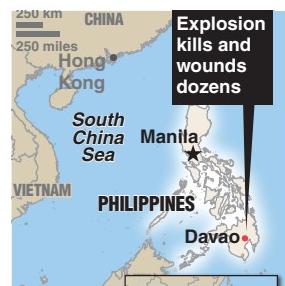
## INSIDE



### LOCAL

Organizers of the this year's CNMI's Next Top Chef is looking to have the winner serve as a representative of the Commonwealth in various international events.

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### WORLD

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte declared a nationwide "state of lawlessness" Saturday after suspected Abu Sayyaf extremists detonated a bomb that killed 14 people.

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### LIFE & STYLE

Police did not find guns or drugs during a search of singer Chris Brown's mansion before his arrest on allegations he threatened a model at gunpoint, his lawyer said Friday.

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# Local



ERWIN ENCINARES  
Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance board chair Frankie Eliptico, left, poses with board members Frances Castro, Eleanor Cabrera, Ron Smith, and other MINA members during the environmental group's Green Gala at the Fiesta Resort & Spa last Aug 3.

## Community comes out in droves to support Green Gala

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
erwin\_encinaires@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance's annual fundraising party, the Green Gala, was a smashing success last Sept. 2 at the Fiesta Resort & Spa with the party having sold out tickets.

Green Gala is the annual fundraising event that is highly anticipated by the community as well local businesses. The aim of the Green Gala is to fund the various conservation efforts hosted by MINA.

Frankie Eliptico, chairperson for MINA's board of directors, said the turnout for the event got him excited and made him look forward to the upcoming conservation programs. "I am excited about the turnout; we sold out tickets a couple days ago. There was such an overwhelming support from the community. We are so happy," said an enthusiastic Eliptico. "We are excited that there are so many people who support MINA. More than anything, we are thankful to our sponsors, because it is their generosity that allows us to continue the Green Gala year after year. It is the most highly anticipated event of the year."

Becky Furey, the interim executive director of MINA, shared her joy after seeing the overflowing crowd at the Green Gala. "The overwhelming support of the community, like we announced earlier, the event was sold out and just even

having a soldout fundraising event is amazing," said Furey. "Having the continuous support of community businesses, members, and even schools, makes me absolutely happy."

MINA Project manager Kodep Ogumoro-Uladong was quick to mention that the Green Gala was a joint effort. "The Green Gala is a team effort led by our board members and are supported by staff. It is our signature fundraising event to help support our various programs and projects," said Ogumoro-Uladong.

He also shares that despite lacking manpower, MINA gets non-monetary support from the local government and various other entities on the island.

"MINA is made up of only four full-time staff. We have various projects that we implement that also require collaboration with various partners on the island. That includes Department of Land and Natural Resources, Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, Marianas Visitors Authority, and more. Through these partnerships, we are able to implement projects that really address our natural resources and their conservation," said Ogumoro-Uladong.

MINA is a non-profit organization aiming for the conservation of the natural resources of the CNMI for future generations.

For more information, or for those interested in donating, call 670-233-7333 (REEF).

# WE WILL NEVER FORGET FIELD OF HEROES

15th Anniversary of September 11th

This community event will be an opportunity for family members to honor and support our Veterans/Military Personnel, Law Enforcement Officers, Fire and 1st Responders by purchasing a 3'x5' American flag (\$20), in their honor.

This community event will be hosted on all 3 of the Northern Mariana Islands (Saipan, Tinian and Rota.)

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- Monday, September 5th - Sites set up
- Tuesday, September 6th - Opening Ceremony (Tinian 10:00 am, Saipan 4:00 pm)
- Sunday, September 11th - 9/11 Memorial Ceremony
- Tuesday, September 13th - Closing Ceremony

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- Rota - Benjamin T. Manglona International Airport



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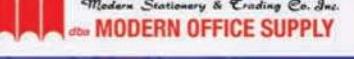
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ERWIN ENCINARES  
Gov. Ralph DLG Torres poses with wife Lady Dianne Tudela Torres during the MINA's Green Gala.

## IN ONGOING TRIAL OF CHEN OVER 4.9 LBS OF 'ICE' SHIPMENT

# Leader of group testifies Chen not aware of drugs; defense also rests

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

Xi Huang, the leader of a group behind the shipment of 4.9 lbs of methamphetamine or "ice" worth \$850,000, testified on Friday in federal court that his co-defendant Zhao-peng Chen was not involved in their drug deal.

After Huang's testimony, attorney David G. Banes, counsel for Chen, informed U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona on Friday at 2:05pm that the defense rests. Banes then renewed his motion for judgment of acquittal, but Manglona denied it.

Manglona excused one juror, but did not explain the reason. The judge ordered the remaining 12 jurors to come back tomorrow, Tuesday, at 8:30am, for the continuation of Chen's trial.

Manglona is expected to provide jury instructions tomorrow, Tuesday, to be followed by the parties' closing arguments, then jury deliberations.

The judge allowed Huang to testify after the prosecution agreed to give him immunity pertaining to his testimony.

On Thursday, Manglona disallowed Huang to testify until he talks with his new court-appointed counsel.

Huang was taken to court on Thursday after defense counsel Banes summoned him to testify. Huang stated he was willing to testify to tell

the truth behind the "ice" shipment.

Manglona then explained Huang's rights considering that he is appealing his case to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Huang then stated he needs to see his new appointed counsel before testifying. Attorney Colin Thompson was appointed as his new counsel. Attorney Robert T. Torres served as his court-appointed counsel in the case, while attorney Stephen Nutting filed his appeal to the Ninth Circuit. Huang stated that he never met Nutting, but that he is aware that his father was working on his appeal.

The indictment charged Chen, Huang, and Shicheng Cai with conspiracy with intent to distribute methamphetamine. Huang and Cai both pleaded guilty. Huang was recently slapped with 188 months imprisonment. Cai, who has yet to be sentenced, testified for the U.S. government.

In his testimony on Friday, Huang, through a translator, corroborated co-defendant Cai's testimony that Cai was in charge in China to receive and pack the "ice" shipment, and pick up the drugs on Saipan.

Huang agreed with assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe during cross-examination that he instructed Cai to pick up the drugs at Sunleader Market's warehouse near As Terlaje Hill on Dec. 4, 2015 because

cause he was scared to do it by himself.

Huang said it was Cai who was willing to pick up the drugs on Saipan. Huang said he also "listened" to other people behind the shipment.

Backe told Huang he is the boss, but the latter replied that he does not know if he was the boss.

Huang also stated that he is not Cai's boss.

*See LEADER on Page 4*

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**ROTA***From Page 1*

of bad checks, deceptive business practices, identity theft, and misconduct in public office.

The CNMI Office of the Public Auditor conducted the investigation.

Among the allegations is that Hocog used Rota Municipal Treasurer checks to purchase cases of beer for her own benefit and to play poker. She also allegedly forged the signature of Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog's son, Victor Val, on a business license application for VAL's Enterprise.

At a hearing on Friday at 4:45pm, Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio maintained the \$50,000 cash bail, but allowed Hocog to post 10 percent or \$5,000 cash plus some conditions.

Kim-Tenorio noted that the defendant holds a government position and that although the charges are not violent, the court will take into consideration the 10 charges that involve corruption or public office trust.

Kim-Tenorio set the preliminary hearing for Sept. 13 at 1:30pm and the arraignment for Sept. 26 at 9am.

Assistant attorney general Matthew Baisley, counsel for the government, requested a bail of \$25,000 cash, but stated that the government has no objection for 10 percent or only \$2,500 cash as long as the defendant surrenders her travel documents.

The judge, however, increased it to \$50,000 cash,

but allowed the defendant to post 10 percent or \$5,000 cash.

Attorney Matthew Holley, counsel for Hocog, requested the release of the defendant and allow her to post the cash on Tuesday.

The judge denied such arrangement.

Holley said Hocog does not pose danger to the community and is not a flight risk.

OPA investigator Juan M. Santos stated in his report that the investigation began when an anonymous caller provided information last July 8 that Hocog abused and misused funds under the Rota Imprest Funds and the Rota Municipal Treasurer Account for her own personal gain and benefit.

Hocog allegedly would write Rota Municipal Treasurer checks to "cash" to co-worker's name, family's names, or her boyfriend's name.

The government checks were allegedly used at Sunshine Variety Store, TJ Enterprise dba Safeway Store, Poker Arcade, Rota 3Kings Market Too/Harvest Store all located in Songsong, Rota, and at Ming Yang Store located on Saipan.

Several of the Rota Municipal Treasurer's (RMT) checks allegedly used by Hocog were returned due to insufficient funds.

OPA investigator Santos said that on Dec. 27, 2015, Hocog used a RMT check to purchase seven cases of beer at Sunshine Store and sold them at a cockfight derby.

Hocog allegedly kept the sale proceeds for her own

personal benefit.

On that same day, Hocog allegedly used RMT checks to play poker at Poker Arcade.

Investigator Santos said that an owner of two Rota stores confirmed that they received RMT check, but only to be returned by the bank due to insufficient funds.

The two stores' accounting staff then contacted Hocog about the returned checks, but the defendant advised the accountant that the funds were not yet available.

Hocog allegedly advised the accountant to redeposit the returned checks at the bank.

The two stores' owner also disclosed that the owner of TJ Enterpriss dba Safeway Market told her that she too had experienced about one or two transactions with Hocog involving the use of RMT checks that the bank returned for insufficient funds.

Santos said that last Aug. 8, the Joint Task Force composed of OPA, Department of Public Safety, and Attorney General's Investigation Division initiated the investigation at the Rota Finance Office.

Santos said the owners of the stores provided information and copies of RMT checks.

Santos said a witness stated that he saw Hocog use RMT check to buy seven cases of beer and assorted drinks at Sunshine Store.

The witness also disclosed that he also witnessed Hocog use RMT checks on numerous occasions for her own benefit.

Another storeowner disclosed that when she encountered that Hocog used an

RMT check that had insufficient funds, she brought the matter to Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig's attention.

The storeowner stated that Atalig said he would look into the matter and asked her to redeposit the same check.

The storeowner said the check was re-deposited at a later date and was cleared by the bank.

Santos said during an interview last Aug. 13, Hocog admitted to using RMT checks for her own benefits because she was desperate for money.

Hocog explained that under the RMT account, there are two accounts—for the Rota Casino Gaming Commission and the Miscellaneous Account.

Hocog allegedly admitted that all the money she embezzled using RMT checks were to help finance her children's needs and herself.

Santos said Hocog admitted taking \$7,000 to \$8,000 and that she informed Atalig last June about what she did.

Santos said according to Hocog, she later received a letter from the mayor placing her on administrative leave and she was then replaced by Sharon A. Manglona.

Santos said Hocog admitted to investigators of using other person's name on the RMT checks and that others also benefitted from the transactions because she was giving them money in return for cashing the RMT checks at various stores on Rota and on Saipan.

Hocog allegedly admitted that whenever funds are short and payments are to be paid out of the RMT account,

she would give reason to delay and stall payments until she received her paycheck to cover the shortfall of funds.

Hocog also allegedly admitted to using open accounts to obtain items or goods at stores for her personal use and benefit and charged them under Rota Finance's or the mayor office's account.

Hocog allegedly admitted that she ordered a Revenue and Taxation Office employee to process a business license in which she signed off for Val's Enterprise under Victor Val B. Hocog's name absent payment of a business license fee.

Hocog allegedly admitted to forging the signature of Victor Val Hocog on the business license application.

Investigator Santos said to date there has been no pay-

ments of this business license fee under the owner's name.

Santos said Rota Finance Office under Hocog's control also processed three payments totaling \$3,000.

Two payments were processed in April 2016 for VAL's Enterprise.

Santos said one payment was processed in May 2016 which was deposited at Bank of Saipan, Rota Branch and then withdrawal of these funds were made at Bank of Saipan, Saipan main branch.

Santos said these checks were processed under Rota Imprest Fund Account.

Santos said investigation and collected evidence revealed that from July 2015 to May 2016, Hocog embezzled between \$15,000 and \$20,000 from the Miscellaneous Account and the Rota Imprest Fund Account.

**LEADER***From Page 3*

Cai earlier testified that Huang was his boss in this "ice" shipment.

Huang said Chen had his wife's cellphone number because of a hotel reservation. He stated that Chen was not aware that he was going to Saipan.

According to U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration special agent Kirk F. Johns, Huang and Cai both arrived on Saipan from Shanghai, China, while Chen arrived with his wife on Dec. 2, 2015. Customs inspectors discovered the contraband hidden in one of nine paint buckets during a routine inspection of a shipping container on Dec. 2, 2015.

On the question why Chen came to Saipan, Huang replied that the prosecutor needs to ask Chen about it.

Backe told Huang that Chen stated he came to Saipan to shop for jewelry and for tourism.

Huang answered that Chen told him that he came to Saipan because he has couple of girls who can work for karaoke.

Huang said it was only an "accident" that Chen was with him when he and Cai were picking up the shipment of drugs on Saipan.

Huang agreed with Backe that Chen was with him when they rented a green Mazda 2, where Cai put the paint bucket that supposed to contain the "ice."

Huang also agreed that Chen was in his and Cai's hotel room at Summer Holiday in Garapan when Cai called a person at Sunleader as to when to pick up the "merchandise" at the

warehouse.

Backe asked if Chen never asked what's going on why they keep on following Cai's car, why they were talking to a "stranger" at Sunleader, and why they rented a green Mazda car.

Huang said Chen did not ask. He reiterated that Chen's presence at those times was just accident.

"I really did not tell him about it [drugs]," said Huang through an interpreter.

"This whole thing is only me and Cai. He (Chen) did not get a single penny," Huang said.

Huang said he thought that he would not get arrested because what he did was not dangerous as he was only providing instructions to Cai about the drugs.

Huang explained why his plea agreement with the U.S. government was cancelled, but that he still subsequently pleaded guilty without the plea deal. He said the reason why his plea deal was canceled because he did not want to testify against Chen.

Huang said he's saying from the very beginning that Chen was not involved in this "ice" shipment.

Huang agreed with Banes that he got a longer sentence after he did not agree to testify against Chen.

On Thursday, Cai testified for the U.S. government about how they shipped the "ice" to Saipan from China, how they concealed the drugs in one of nine paint buckets, and about Chen's role in picking up the drug shipment.

Cai, however, agreed with Banes during cross-examination that he is not sure that Chen knew about the drug deal between Cai and Huang.

**9/11***From Page 1*

monies and remembrance services done in commemoration of the tragic incident.

"We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes Recognition" is a fundraising event that is being hosted by the TSL Foundation, in which starting Sept. 6 through Sept. 13,

American flags will be displayed at the Commonwealth Ports Authority Airport Field for Saipan, the Tinian Fiesta Grounds for Tinian, and the Benjamin T. Manglona Airport Field for 24 hours for all the seven days of the fundraising event.

Community members are encouraged to buy American flags in support of the event. The event proceeds would

all be donated for the treatment of veterans and with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or PTSD.

Tan Holdings COO and president Jerry Tan and the company's vice president for Corporate Affairs Cathy Attao-Toves along with her staff as well as Department of Public Safety and Department of Fire and Emergency Services officials and veterans attended

the proclamation signing.

The Tan Siu Lin Foundation is the humanitarian sector of the Tan Holdings Corp. Along with "We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes Recognition," the TSL Foundation has sponsored many social welfare events, such as providing clothing, monetary donations, and even scholarships to the various people on and off island that are in need.

and private sector—emphasized the importance of CW-1 workers"

He added that the CNMI has a huge labor demand with investors like Alter City Group, Best Sunshine International, Ltd., and Honest Profit International, Ltd.

CW-1 workers also have sons and daughters who were born here who are U.S. citizens. "A lot of these workers have sons and daughters that were born here and have entered the military fighting for our freedom. These are CW-1 workers who called the CNMI their second home."

ber of guest workers is stated under the law and is thankful for DHS reducing it to only one rather than a large number.

"Thank you for the only one deduction. But the law is to reduce it to zero, how would they expect our economy to grow when our CW-1 workers [are reduced] to zero? When we're having difficulty to meet the labor demand? We are not even part of the participation process," said Torres.

"That's why we're ask-

ing U.S. Congress to amend the law. We have pleaded our case that if that law continues, it would devastate the whole CNMI not just economically but also socially. That's the reason why we are asking to increase the number of CW-1," added Torres.

Bringing the CW-1 number back to 18,000 is another thing that the CNMI panel is asking for to sustain the economic gains that the Commonwealth has been experiencing. "We think that 18,000 is what we need to be our workforce to be successful."

"I know that the USCIS has

## Cancer awareness group looking for betel nut chewers

By JON PEREZ  
jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Cancer Association is looking for volunteer betel nut chewers to be part of a betel nut intervention trial program in collaboration with the University of Guam Cancer Research Center.

The University of Hawaii Cancer Research Center is UOG's partner after the National Cancer Institute awarded the partnership with close to \$27 million in research grants, money that would fund their various programs until 2020.

CCA program director Juan L. Babauta said their agency will administer the betel nut intervention program in cooperation with UOG through project principal investigator Dr. Yvette C. Paulino, who was on Saipan early this year to present the findings of her study on betel nut chewing.

Dr. Robert A. Underwood and Dr. Rachel T. Leon Guerrero are the general principal investigators of the Cancer Research Grant.

"The betel nut project is a collaborated project with CCA and UOG, which is doing a betel nut intervention trial. The research is similar to the tobacco association program," said Babauta, in last week's proclamation signing of the Childhood and Prostate Cancer Month.

"The CCA office will be made the contact point where those who would like to be involved with this program should get in touch with us," added Babauta.

CCA board vice president Maggie C. Camacho said that a lot of betel nut chewers still do not believe what it can do for them. "There are still a lot of people who do not believe that betel nut chewing can do harm to them. And [betel nut] chewing is very prevalent amongst the youngsters. It is said that it starts from the youngsters."

"I just get goosebumps whenever I see oral cancer patients. And a lot of them do not believe that it could happen to them. [Oral cancer] is growing to become the No. 2 cancer type in the CNMI."

That's why the CCA is asking the Gov. Ralph DLG Torres to finally sign House Bill 19-65 or the act "to prohibit sale of betel nut (areca nut) to any person who is under the age of 18." The CCA is hoping the community would be more attentive this time to help prevent oral cancer.

The bill, introduced by Rep. Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) and Vinson E.

Sablan (Ind-Saipan), had already passed the House and the Senate.

CCA is a community-

based nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to promoting cancer awareness and prevention, providing patient

support services, and serving as the liaison and advocate for cancer issues in the CNMI and the region.

It began as a coalition of volunteers who are committed to reducing the burden of cancer in the islands. These volunteers serve on the CCA board, help raise funds, and participate in training, outreach, and patient support programs.



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Kia Soul LX retail price \$18,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.40% APR for 72 monthly payments of \$247.56 or \$114.26 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$17,824.32.

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## Torres: Legislature has power to abolish CUC board

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said that it would take the Legislature to act in abolishing the current board of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., which had been riddled with issues regarding water distribution and failure to fund the improvements needed to efficiently serve the public.

Torres said he wants the board to be more effective when it comes to making decisions. "I don't have the authority to abolish the board. It is the Legislature that has the authority to abolish the board."

"There have been lawsuits filed against the board and I do have some issues with the

CUC's progress. I would like to see more aggressive in their decision-making," said Torres.

He added that his administration would work with the board to address the concerns. "We've been working together to address those concerns. I will be meeting again with the board this week to further discuss those concerns that I spoke about during my prior meeting with them."

His administration is also in communication with the Attorney General's Office if there is a legal way to abolish the board. He, however, did not divulge other details since they are still in consultation

with the AG's Office.

The administration has received some information that there is no legal process that the governor can completely abolish the board.

One way that the government is seeing is not renewing the terms of the members of the board or if they failed to have a quorum in their meetings.

The administration said it is becoming clear now that it won't be legally possible to abolish or dissolve the board. They, however, remain in communication with the AG's Office on what are the other options. (*Jon Perez*)

### ON WORKER'S LAWSUIT OVER CRANE ACCIDENT

## Construction company denies it was at fault

A construction company has denied it has fault over a crane accident that caused injuries to its former construction worker at the site of Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s Grand Mariana Casino & Hotel Resort.

MCC International Saipan Ltd. Co., through counsel Michael W. Dotts, asserted that any injuries suffered or damages sustained by plaintiff Anwar Hossain were caused solely by the latter's own negligence.

In MCC International's answer and defenses to Hossain's lawsuit, Dotts said the claims are precluded or limited by the Worker's Compensation laws and that plaintiff has failed to exhaust administrative remedies.

Dotts said MCC gives notice that it had no duty to protect Hossain from "any illegal acts committed by others that may have given rise to the alleged injuries and/or dam-

ages" that plaintiff suffered.

Dotts said his client gives notice that it intends to rely on the defense of "no duty to warn of an obvious danger."

The lawyer said MCC did not proximately cause Hossain's alleged injuries and damages.

He said the negligence of MCC, if any, "was passive and not active," and may have "merely furnished the condition which was merely a circumstance of the events" that Hossain complained of.

Dotts said MCC admits that it has not paid for Hossain's medical expenses, but denies other allegations in the complaint.

Hossain filed the lawsuit in

## Ex-convict gets 6 months in prison for stealing truck parts, then truck itself

An ex-convict was slapped with a six-month prison term for stealing parts of a pickup truck and eventually the truck itself from a dive shop in Susupe.

Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio last week sentenced Thomas T. Matsunaga to two years imprisonment, all suspended except six months, for the offense of theft.

Matsunaga, 51, was given credit for time served of 95 days.

After serving the prison term, the defendant will be placed on probation for two years and required, among other conditions, to pay restitution to the victim, Byung Hwan Kim, in the amount of \$1,000 and to Motion Auto Repair Shop in the amount of \$480 before the expiration of his probationary period.

Matsunaga was ordered to pay a \$100 fine, \$25 court assessment fee, plus probation fee, and perform 100 hours of community work service, attend narcotics anonymous meetings, and write a letter of apology to Kim.

The amended information charged Matsunaga with theft and criminal mischief. He and

federal court over the crane accident that caused a long and heavy pipe to roll, crushing his left leg at Best Sunshine's hotel and casino project site in Garapan last February.

Hossain, through counsel William M. Fitzgerald, is suing MCC for allegedly violating the Workmen's Compensation Law and for negligence.

Hossain asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to hold MCC International liable to pay him \$200,000 in lost wages and medical expenses, and \$300,000 in non-economic damages, plus punitive damages in an amount to be determined at trial. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

counsel assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit signed a plea deal with the government. The defendant pleaded guilty to the offense of theft.

Assistant attorney general Heather Barcenas appeared for the government.

According to the factual basis of the plea deal, Matsunaga unlawfully stole Kim's red 1997 T-100 truck, including its rear differential, between May 20 and 23, 2016 on Saipan.

Police said it was Matsunaga's brother who called the police because the victim is his tenant. The brother also complained that the suspect stole two of his 18,000 BTU split type air-conditioners and three window type air-conditioners.

Police later traced the stolen red Toyota T 100 to an auto repair shop in Illian, where they found out that they towed the truck after Matsunaga sold it for \$350.

Police learned that it was Matsunaga who called the auto repair shop and sold the truck for \$350. The shop bought the truck to use its parts.

The shop didn't think that there's problem with the truck because it was parked at Matsunaga's residence. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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PRO SE

#### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re the Matter of the Petition To Appoint General Guardianship for:	) FCD GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0442
E.J. M. P. I. M. M. P.	) NOTICE OF HEARING
Minor Child	)
By:	)
Serlin I. Marlik	)
Petitioners	)

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on September 29, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. in Courtroom 205A before Honorable Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.  
Dated this 29<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2016.

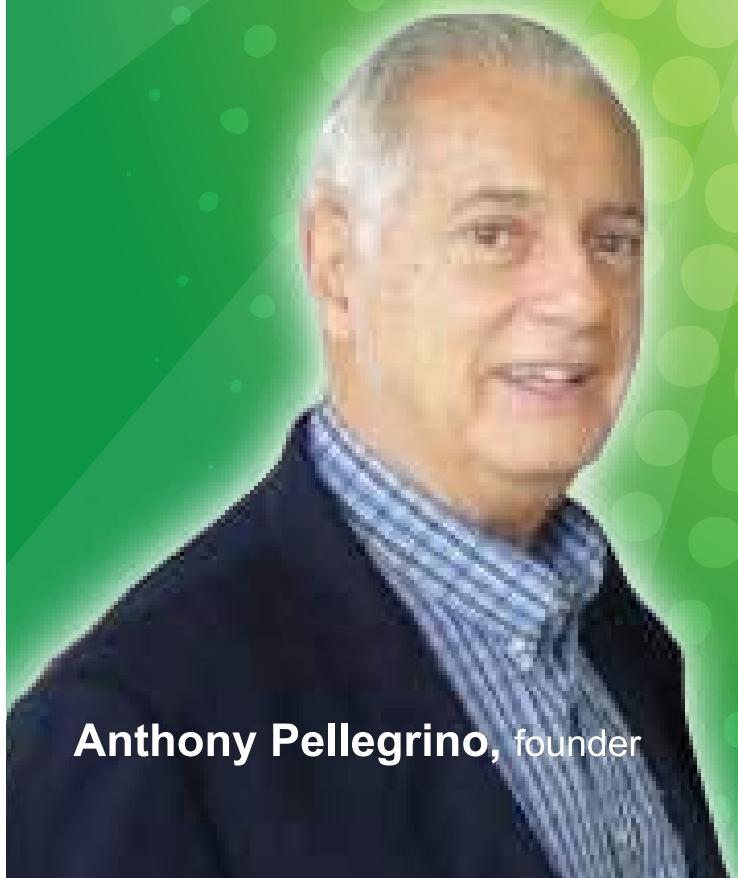
Patrick V. Diaz  
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/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

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A big salute to all the working men and women of the CNMI.

# Happy Labor Day!

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**Saipan Tribune**  
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

'Next Top Chef will also help in marketing NMI'



JON PEREZ

Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation director Rose Smith, fifth right, joins members of the organizing committee, composed of the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands and EVM members, of the CNMI Next Top Chef for a group photo.

By JON PEREZ  
jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Organizers of the this year's CNMI's Next Top Chef is looking to have the winner serve as a representative of the Commonwealth in various international events, which in turn would also help in marketing the islands and attract more tourists.

Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation has organized the annual event for the past three years supported by local businesses. However, for the fourth edition, they will be partnering with the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands.

EVM director Rose Smith said that they plan to have the winner also supporting their various programs and activities. "This is our fourth annual competition and it has been a fundraising event for Empty Vessel."

"This will be our first year to partner with HANMI after coming to an agreement with them. With HANMI we are able to realize our dream of doing a better competition," said Smith, who added that the Marianas Visitors Authority will also be involved.

She said the competition also serves as EVM's fundraising event. "We are so honored in partnering with HANMI, which made it into a fundraiser to support our programs and activities."

"The chefs sharing their skills for a good cause makes us happy. The winner will represent our organization and will advocate its activities. It is also our wish that the winner will be sent off-island to market the CNMI aside from advocating what our organization

does," said Smith. Catherine Rosario Perry Harris, who spoke in HANMI's behalf, said they would like to help in making the competition one of the hotel group's signature events. "It is something that we want to continue to do with them and HANMI is happy for the opportunity."

"HANMI was supposed to celebrate its 30th anniversary last year but it got cancelled because of Typhoon Soudelor. Now this will be the 31st, Empty Vessel approached us if we could help in hosting the event. We saw it is a good opportunity to support and celebrate our 31st anniversary."

Event organizers are still working on the details of the competition, but it will be open to all professional and amateur chefs, who will be competing in separate categories. "We may able to finalize the other details in another meeting next week," said Harris.

The competition was supposedly set on Sept. 24 at the Pacific Islands Club, but they moved it to a still undetermined date in November, but this time at a bigger venue—the Saipan World Resort.

Organizers said it will be an extra ordinary culinary evening as each hotel chef will be asked to prepare a dish that will be part of the regular buffet and another that will be prepared on site. They added that Kagman High School's culinary class students would be assisting the chefs.

Best Sunshine International, Ltd., Bridge Capital LLC, Triple J, Mariana Resort & Spa, IT&E, and KKMP are the other sponsors and partners of the competition.

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"I want to go shopping!"

Saipan Tribune

# DOI provides funds to strengthen capacity for CW Program

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia'aina last week approved a \$200,000 grant for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to create a team of labor certification technicians and a statistician at the Department of Labor to help collect, compile, and analyze crucial data on the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker (CW) Program, which is set to expire on Dec. 31, 2019.

The CNMI is in a transition and working to build a stronger local and U.S. workforce before the CW Program expires. Funding provided through the Office of Insular Affairs Technical Assistance Program will enable the territory to obtain information on job categories currently held by CW workers and monitor losses and gains in particular job fields. The funding also helps the CNMI to develop a strategic plan to provide real-time data on the most in-demand job fields and valuable information needed by decision-makers in allocating limited training

## » Supplements efforts under Section 902 Consultations between the United States and the CNMI

and workforce development resources.

"This funding is direly needed to fill job data gaps, strengthen the capacity of the CNMI government to train the workers that are most needed, and assist the governor and his team in navigating through this transition period," said Kia'aina. "I am pleased to help address this

long-standing issue and look forward to further meetings of the 902 Consultations process, which has provided our federal team, composed of officials from the Departments of the Interior, Defense and Homeland Security, a better appreciation of the importance of the CW program to the CNMI's economy and its impact on people's lives."

"Through the coordination and efforts of the Obama Administration, the CNMI has been granted a tremendous opportunity to air and discuss the most critical issues facing our relationship with the federal government through the 902 Consultations process," stated Gov. Ralph DLG Torres. "This

grant award provided by the Office of Insular Affairs is a product of these discussions and recognizes that we can work collaboratively to achieve our goals for the people and the economy of the CNMI. The funding provides the CNMI

Department of Labor the re-

sources to work toward the adequate and positive transition of our workforce and I thank Assistant Secretary Kia'aina for her recognition of our needs and her willingness to work together for the people of our islands."

Kia'aina was appointed

as the U.S. Special Representative for Section 902 Consultations by President Obama on May 19, 2016, following a request by Torres, the CNMI's Special Representative, and the late governor Eloy S. Inos to initiate the process. At the first meeting held in June 2016, at the White House, the U.S. and CNMI Special Representatives agreed to

focus on: 1) the expiration of the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker Program in 2019; and 2) proposed U.S. Department of Defense military activities in the CNMI. A second meeting was held in August.

The special representatives have agreed to hold the third round of 902 Consultations in the Northern Mariana Islands on Oct. 1, 2016. (PR)

## Vicky Benavente takes lead on Project Development

Vicky Benavente recently joined the Office of the Governor as the special assistant on Project Development bringing with her years of experience in the business development and the hospitality industry.

Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres stated that Benavente's insight into necessary improvements to government efficiency and her special focus on business development and tourism will be crucial as she undertakes her new responsibilities, which are focused on streamlining business permitting processes and private sector growth.

Benavente served as an

executive administrative assistant for the Pacific Islands Club from December 2008 to July 2016 and is well-versed in the tourism and hospitality industry and working collaboratively with government agencies and the business sector throughout her managerial capacity and as a businesswoman.

She previously served as a manager at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, the managing director of the Marianas Visitors Authority, as well as MVA's deputy managing director. She graduated from the Uni-

versity of Hawaii School of Travel Industry Management in 2004 and holds qualifications in destination marketing, project management, and human resources development.

"Having worked for the private sector for many years I have an understanding of the challenges facing businesses working with our government agencies and now I have the privilege of being on the other side of the table to contribute to the team's efforts to facilitate permanent processes and improved

permitting so that businesses are more inclined to invest more and apt to developing their businesses or product," she said.

She currently serves as the chairwoman for the Marianas Tourism Education Council, is a member to the Saipan Fishermen's Association, and a volunteer for the Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation and was previously a member of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce and the 2014 Business Person of the Year, served as an instructor at the Latte Training Academy, and was a member for the board of directors Pacific Development, Inc. (PR)



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Happy  
Labor  
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From the management and staff of

ALTER CITY GROUP

# Opinion

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVI, Issue No. 176

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,  
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
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## EDITORIAL

### Celebrate Labor Day like it's 1840—no multitasking

We interrupt the frenzied 2016 political season with reflections on the presidential campaign of 1840. This may change the way you choose to spend Labor Day weekend:

Ahead of that distant year's contest with Democratic incumbent Martin Van Buren, William Henry Harrison did not attend the Whig Party convention in Harrisburg, Pa. He stayed home on his Ohio estate. He found out he'd won the nomination ... a week later. There was no telegraph yet, and railroads were in their infancy. No one seemed in any rush to break the story. Harrison simply picked up his copy of the Cincinnati Gazette one morning and noticed a brief article stating that, oh, he'd been nominated for the presidency.

After finally getting official notification, Harrison sat down and wrote a letter of acceptance, according to "The Carnival Campaign," a new book about that race by Ronald G. Shafer.

Another fact from the book about the pace of life back then: A Whig named James Brooks visited Harrison at home in North Bend, Ohio, during the summer of 1840. You might have thought Harrison would be, you know, out on the hustings talking to voters. But no, Harrison, who loved to entertain, was there because it was viewed as unseemly for a presidential candidate to talk too much about himself. Brooks, editor of the pro-Whig New York Express, intended to spend a day at North Bend, but Harrison persuaded him to remain a week. "Seldom if ever have I passed any time of my life more agreeably," wrote Brooks, who obviously also had no other pressing appointments.

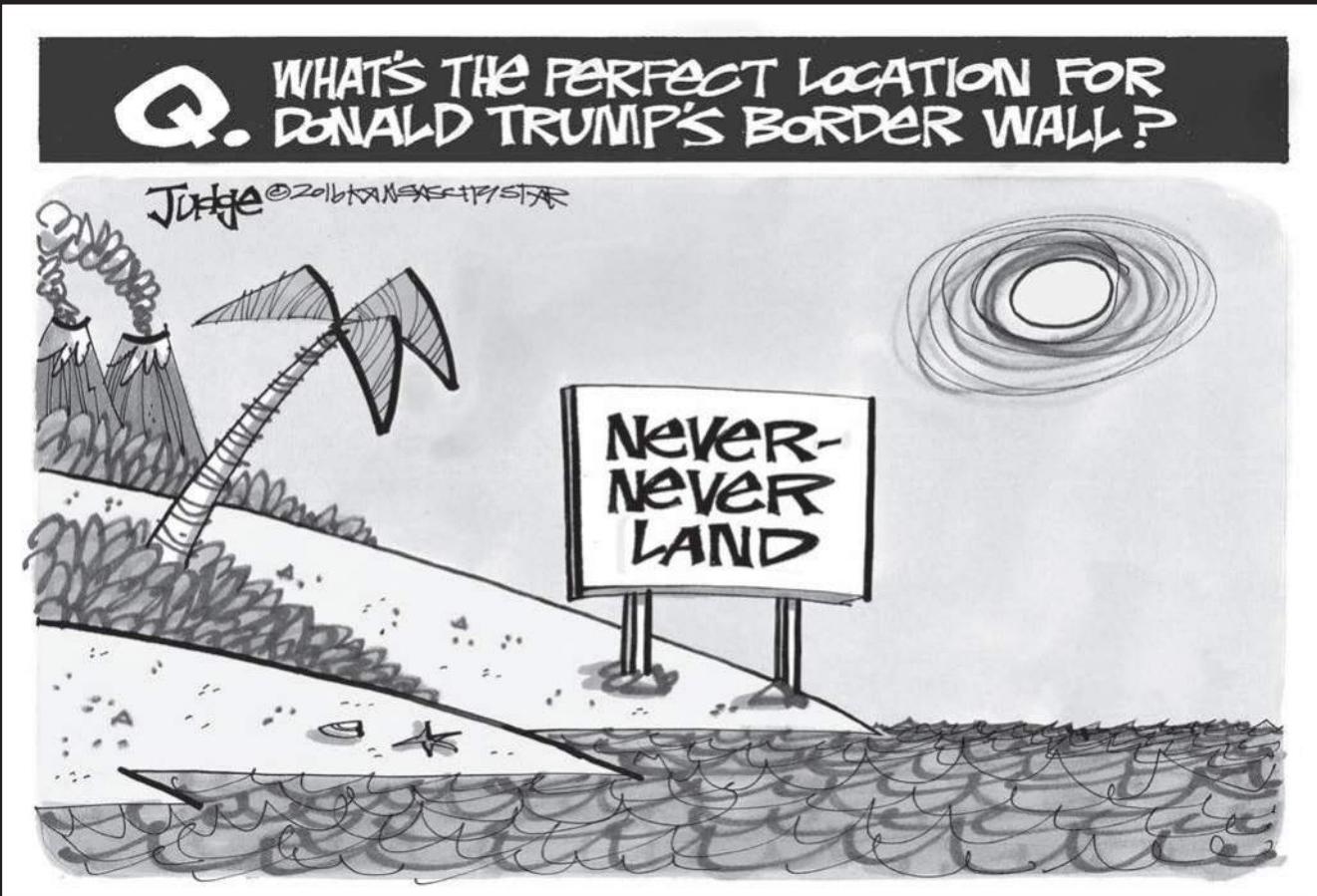
Do you get the sense those guys operated at a slower rhythm than today's candidates and second-by-second news cycle?

The point of Shafer's book is that the Van Buren-Harrison matchup was the first modern presidential campaign (Harrison eventually stumped to huge crowds). But one also could view the 1840 race as one of the last to operate according to the natural pace of olden times. By 1844, Samuel Morse had developed the telegraph. By 1860, morning papers could break the news of Abraham Lincoln's election. Then things really picked up.

By 1869, a neurologist named George Beard was diagnosing a condition in Americans called neurasthenia, which was basically a combination of stress and information overload. Beard, according to a recent article in The Atlantic, believed the modern world was causing burnout. He blamed "steam power, the periodical press, the telegraph, the sciences, and the mental activity of women."

OK, there's nonsense at the end of that list, but Beard was on to something with the basic idea. Modern-day neurologist Daniel J. Levitin, in his book "The Organized Mind," notes that information overload and multitasking overstimulate the brain, causing mental fog and scrambled thinking. The overtaxed brain produces too much of the stress

*See LABOR DAY on Next Page*



## Power of 'We The People'

In a democracy, the most powerful is "we the people." There's nothing else beyond the "will" of the people. The issue emerged when former senator David Cing disagreed with attempts by the gaming commission to litigate certain issues in the Tinian Gaming law.

So you don't confuse the issue, you begin by reading the initiative approved by a majority of voters on Tinian. The only other people who could change the casino law is, yes, the will of "we the people." The fact that the people took the issue into their hands (lacking trust in their legislative representatives) is a tale that their collective voice is the only vehicle to changing the fundamental casino law it approved.

To brave litigating an issue that would fundamentally shift the intent of what the people approved would be a blatant violation of what's now law. I venture to say the court would say go back to the people and seek for their consent. Their will is the ultimate power in a democracy.

Obviously, if you think certain changes may be worth the effort then begin another initiative that addresses constructive concerns you may wish to see changed. You can't alter the fundamental expression of the people in the initiative it approved in a plebiscite.

### Done, none, gone!

Magoo has been studying the performance records of declared candidates (incumbent and newcomers). He puts a name on a sheet of paper, draws a line down the middle and places work "done," "none," career "gone!"

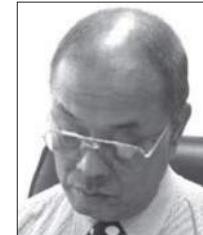
Most of the incumbents have nothing to show per Magoo's findings. He complains that he's never seen such dismally humiliating record of failure! "And when you ask them for answers "dey look de odda way." Well, was he expecting rhyme and reason to engage in some healthy discussion on issues with Da Boysis on the hill?

**Regurgitation:** Because of the obvious lack of relevant issues to present with credibility, the fractious republicans are into regurgitation: bringing up swallowed food to chew once more like cows in a pasture at night. It includes the establishment of new political status commission and abolition of DPL. I would address these issues later in greater detail.

Like my Uncle Rudy insisted, Mr. Incumbent, please show us your accomplishments. Now if you're a brave newcomer, share with us your academic and professional credentials that factually prepared you to do policymaking work. At least give us a clue what's up your sleeves!

Yes, I have been critical of the elected elite for legitimate reasons. Uppermost is the fact that for every year of negligence, you force the livelihood of families in the villages three years back. Eh, did you get this braddah? So far the toxic republican prized trophy is about sixty years in arrears! Halo? Your abysmal

**By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**  
Special to the Saipan Tribune



*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.*

performance and sterling record of failure are fodder for comedy, nothing else!

**Clueless:** Listening to spouts of politicians on any given issue presents opportunities to tell if he or she is conversant of issues under discussion.

The poised employ thoughtful answers and expresses views with a sense of humility. The eggheads are quite quick firing their guns through their holsters. Desperation!

An educated viewpoint is what voters yearn to hear from legislators braving articulating issues if at all. I'm not interested in disoriented spouts where we begin quizzing: And we're placing our future at their feet? Let's see you engage in educated discussion what's the single most vital issue that has forced suffering among villagers. And, what have you done to mitigate the village hardship?

**Don't born...** Simple folks are tired of the re-election scheme fostered almost instantly by shallow politicians after an election—resetting for re-election. And so there emerges real time questions from the voters this time around. Why is this raw reaction from villagers?

The poor folks had to put up with a myriad of costs going up on all corners while family pocketbooks remain the same for over 20 years. And you have the gall to ask for re-election? Is your sterling "Do-Nothing" performance a reason to re-elect you? You have nothing to show for yourself and you want our votes once again? Eh, like my friend Magoo said, "I don't born yesterday, braddah!"

The chorus is often heard throughout the villages with the simple folks saying, "No Mas." How interesting though the deftly deaf incumbents who don't seem to hear the voice of their people. Is there a reason for this?

Yes! They've kept their distance and raw detachment on issues that matter to the people they've ignored over the last year and-a-half or so. One more "bibiba" isn't going to cut it either. But tons of "biliba" are coming your way!

**Issues ignored:** Understandably, candidates who are clueless of relevant issues adversely affecting the villagers aren't about

*See POWER on Next Page*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Our dying culture and a democracy that's blooming next door

I wrote about this once before but nobody seemed to care when I said our democracy was in ICU or in the Intensive Care Unit. Well our democracy died since the last election and needs to be resuscitated in case no one noticed so we continue to travel a treacherous road following "unchecked" leaders who don't always do the right thing for people. The only check that is being placed on members of the Legislature and the Executive Branch are the checks being made by private citizens, as there is no opposition party on Capitol Hill. America's democracy was founded on the principle of being an adversarial government that would be self-checking in the separation of powers and by the opposing interest groups that we have come to know as parties. Well, the CNMI is now past halfway into a second decade (18 years) of having a one-party government—meaning we no longer have a true and complete democracy and the democratic process for making laws is dead!

The only embedded principle of democracy that still exist in the CNMI is voting but when there is only one party it really doesn't make any more sense to vote as everyone on the Hill and everyone running for office is a direct or indirect republican. This is not meant to be against the Republicans but to explain why people are sooooo feed up with our government and expressing their concern for corruption being everywhere. So I ask, why do we have only one party to represent the people? If you are expecting me to bash the GOP, I'm not because some of the things they have done are good, they just need to be kept in check to make sure things balance for the people. No checks and balance, no democracy it's just that simple!

I was truly glad to see Reps. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero and Ralph Yumul place a check by speaking up against the killing of the CUC board because the problem is not the board but the lack of the board operating as a true democracy—it's the people, not the board. Everyone is a politically appointed agents on the board so the power of political appointment makes matters become personal creating a personality conflict football game

## LABOR DAY

*From Page 10*

hormone cortisol and fight-or-flight hormone adrenaline. Levitin quotes another expert saying: "When people think they're multi-tasking, they're actually just switching from one task to another very rapidly. And every time they do, there's a cognitive cost in doing so."

Get the point? Or were you distracted by your smartphone?

Perhaps Americans today live in an unnatural era, bombarded by news and overstimulated by instantaneous communication. We sometimes wonder, especially watching the current presidential race, if we'd get more done and think greater thoughts if we could live off the grid like William Henry Harrison. True, we had second thoughts after realizing Harrison died a month after taking office.

Still, this Labor Day weekend, we vow to take an hour or two to disconnect and see how it feels. We invite you to do the same and tell us about it, but no need to tweet or text.

Please, take your time.

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## POWER

*From Page 10*

to volunteer exposure in order to face the music, so to speak. They're in shadows and the dark side of canopies at night where they hide to see if there's any inclement weather. But let's be frank about it, yeah?

The toxic republican performance failed family pocketbooks for over 20 years now. Or did you lift a finger to improve the depressed NMI economy that would have lifted all boats? Did you say "yes?" Louder, please? Could you name one specific action you took other than to amend the laws so you could also amass high paying jobs at Best Sunshine as a back-up when relegated by the voters? Nothing could be further from the truth!

## Civics Course:

**Lesson I:** We elected Republicans to help improve our livelihood.

They've failed!

**Lesson II:** End of Lesson! No Mas!

instead of solving the challenges and scoring for the people. Everything that CUC and our government does should stand on the merits but most of us with common sense know that is not the case or CUC and our government would be functioning perfectly. The CUC board just needs to function more democratically and professionally as the Guam power situation is blossoming while we are going nowhere and getting nothing done quick fast and in a hurry.

Yes, I am going to talk about the marijuana bill because it also helps to prove my point that the democratic process is dead! Sixto would have never got away with the ugly political play he made with legalization if there had been some Democrats in the Senate but all the senators are Republicans like him so he could figuratively get away with murder and no one would say a thing, especially doing election season. Again, this is not against the GOP, but our local good old boys and girls do need to take a page from the mainland GOP who will speak up when one of theirs is getting out of line. Sixto really screwed the Senate, the lower house, the Executive Branch, the sick and the rest of us around by not doing the work to get it on the ballot.

Guam did at least get something accomplished with legalization because their democracy is alive and well. Guam is really blooming which had a lot to do with the strong two-party system in Guam. The local culture is doing a lot better in Guam as politicians are constantly competing in their campaign on the issue of culture preservation as "competition breeds quality"—thanks to the late but great senator Angel Santos who truly put the local culture in the forefront of Guam's politics permanently. We talk about culture but don't do a darn thing while Guam has created an institute and a research center for teaching the culture and a well-developed Chamorro Village with a plethora of cultural sites, event, and activities for tourists. The culture is dying in the CNMI but all our leaders have thought about for improving the CNMI over the past decade has been the casino and nothing else because no one is sitting on the other side of the table to push new and different issues like legalization. The only real check and balance by citizens in the CNMI is the loyal and faithful citizens in the newspaper when their concerns need to be said by someone sitting at the Legislature's table. Our GOP is not going to self-check its members and we the people will never see them fighting each other for us so we will continue to loose like we just lost four years of progress with legalization.

I am not mad at the GOP and in fact I believe some of them are trying to do their best but they need to speak up and get things done! I'm sure there are other ideas and means that are not being considered simply because they don't come from the leadership in the GOP and that needs to stop. Bi-partisanship is a lost art for our politicians because there is no one on the other side so in a way we the people have been setting ourselves for failure on the Hill by not having a Democrat sitting at the table. We have the Covenant Republicans, the regular Republicans, and the independent Republicans but not a single Democrat—heller and people wonder why our government is like it is. Our democracy is dead and many don't seem to even notice it or do they even care! Many of the local people with degrees who are best qualified to be in office simply take the easy way out and live the life on the mainland and I can't blame them.

Who will make the sacrifice and step forward in the next election to do something great for the CNMI by running and winning as a Democrat to resurrect our democracy that is headed of the grave—one right person can make a difference. The GOP and the Democrats were magnificent at the conventions, now we need to see what the Democrats will do for the CNMI! I hope readers can now better understand why I was asking for the judges and PSS to say something because there is no one sitting on the other side of the table and the community needs to speak up in the absence of Democratic representation in the Legislature. The courts and PSS are fending for themselves in finding funding when legalization has the potential to be the answer.

But until our democracy is resurrected, us citizens will have to continue in our attempts to place a check on leaders who are not working for the people. If any GOP doesn't like this blame it all on Sixto because he started this and inspired this playing politics with people like we are stupid and can't fight back. He may have very well awakened a sleeping giant that could manifest itself in the next election. I'm writing this for the people because non one in the Senate stopped him and they had to know better given they all knew and contributed to the research I conducted for them. The senators are all good people but there is just too much "playing politically safe by avoiding issues and log rolling" when independent thinking and leadership needs to be in the forefront. Now the whole party is being scrutinized over what has become traditional marijuana legislation in America that should have been on the ballot this year with 23 other states—they are literally making us losers instead of winners! This is not meant to be a slap in the face to the GOP but to wake them up so they will bring their A-game and check their fellow GOP members and to allow others to contribute who are not GOP based on the merits and not the person—it's called prejudice! Behind closed doors they were more loyal to Sixto than to the people they serve, me and proven research which is the real problem. We the people (patriotic citizens and community leaders) must step up to the

challenge and restore our two-party system or we the people are doomed to a dead culture and democracy that's blooming right next door—wake up and help before it's too late.

## Ambrose M. Bennett

*Kagman*

# OGA still applies to the Legislature

During the 2009 election, CNMI voters approved a popular initiative making the Open Government Act applicable to the CNMI Legislature, demonstrating a growing public concern about corruption in government. This was a result of the impeachment proceedings against former governor Fitial. The people of the CNMI were pleased with the actions of the vocal minority in the Legislature, at that time, but were obviously concerned about white collar crime at all levels of government.

However, when concerned citizen Glen Hunter filed a taxpayer's lawsuit in May 2014 against the mechanism used by the Legislature to create casino gaming on Saipan, an assistant attorney general opined that the OGA is unconstitutional and cannot apply to the legislature.

Fortunately, on Feb. 25, 2015, the CNMI courts decided that members of the Legislature had violated the Open Government Act in the passage of Public Laws 18-38 and 18-43, also known as the Saipan casino law. They were forced to admit to the violation, re-write the law, and pass it again, legally.

This implies, then, that the OAG does apply to the Legislature.

So, then, why can't we know how the Tinian Legislative Delegation overspent its budget by \$40,000, and for what purpose Lt. Gov. Hocog gave them \$40,000 in campaign bonus?

On what did they spend their entire budget, when nothing—zip, zero, zilch, nothing—is happening on Tinian? This island is dead, sent back into the dark ages, because Sen. Frank Borja, now president of the Senate, did not insist on getting direct flights to Tinian before voting to support casino gaming on Saipan?

And, what happened to that vocal minority that gained the respect of the people of Saipan back in 2012 and were rewarded with the majority? Are they now afraid of cleaning their own house?

The people of Tinian deserve to know what happened to their money. How exactly did the Tinian Delegation overspend by \$40,000: first class travel, champagne, steak and lobster for dinner while campaigning all across America for absentee votes from voters who have no idea what is really happening on Tinian—while the real people of Tinian eat crackers?

On a positive note, congratulations to Rep. Ed Propst, who had the courage and conviction to stand up for what he believes in when he voted on the House budget bill—even though he knew it might make him a minority within the minority. This is the stuff of which President John Kennedy wrote in his award book *Profiles in Courage*.

## Don A. Farrell

*Marpo Heights, Tinian*

# A 'pot'-full of issues

This is in response to Mr. Rudy M. Sablan's "Your Plan-Version 1" letter to the editor where he might have inadvertently wrote in to include Anatahan as being part of a lease alongside Farallon de Medinilla and others.

To my knowledge and as a resident of Anatahan I would more than likely have raised some issues if it were to happen. But other than that try not to be some kind of freemason elite sending or writing messages to our so called CNMI litters (leaders) or to a specific "gayu" on what could be done because as far as I am concerned leasing out Anatahan to the U.S. military is not on the table. And if you are an honorable individual, please tread lightly and proofread before laying claims to somebody's' idea. In this case an idea from a full-blooded and born and raised Refaluwasch on the lovely island of Saipan and a resident of the pristine island of Anatahan.

On to our next issue is that of the marijuana legislation. First of let me just say that let us all agree to agree in one thing and that is that marijuana is a drug, right? Now let's break the argument down into pieces so some or all our readers would more than likely agree to. We all can agree that both sides of the issue at hand have and continue to have studies on marijuana. Whether it be for medical and or recreational. The other issue to consider is the study group—the government (U.S. federal government) and the other are numerous independent study group. Let's start with the independent study group. If we were to summarize their findings into one report, they would all more than likely agree or support marijuana medical and or recreational use, at least to my understanding. Given that they are funded independently and not by any government funds. Then we look to the one-sided government studies, in which most of their reports allege that

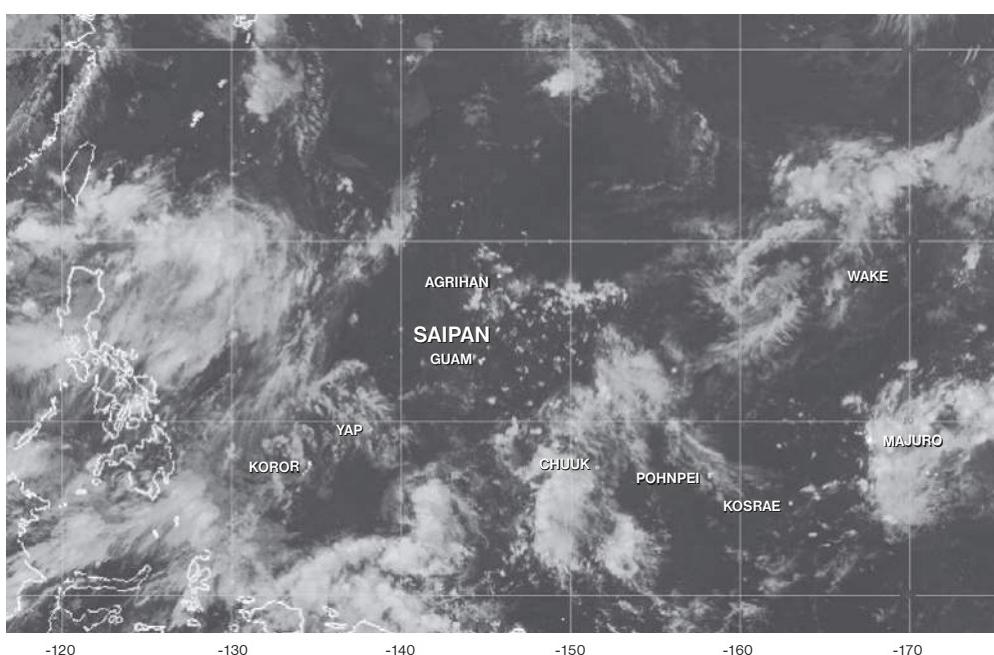
See ISSUES on Page 13

# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Northeast winds 5 to 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



## PICTURE TIME: 3:46 AM, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Gentle east winds and combined seas of 3-4 ft are present in the Marianas waters. Radar shows isolated showers, but no thunderstorms have been seen. Little has changed in the last 24 hrs, and the forecast is basically unchanged. The models show no significant weather features that would bring widespread rainfall, but there is enough moisture and instability to support random small-scale convective events. Marine conditions will remain benign with seas around 3 ft. A near-equatorial trough is present near Koror and Yap. Satellite imagery shows showers and thunderstorms across the area, the bulk being found southwest of Koror. Scattered showers this morning at both locations will gradually taper off this afternoon as a weak ridge develops over the area. Another surface trough near Chuuk will bring deteriorating conditions around Tuesday and Wednesday.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

MICRONESIA		▼ ▲
Guam and Rota	Partly cloudy	82 / 89 °F
Palau	Mostly cloudy	79 / 88 °F
Yap	Mostly cloudy	77 / 88 °F
Chuuk	Heavy rain	81 / 88 °F
Pohnpei	Partly cloudy	77 / 88 °F
Kosrae	Partly sunny	82 / 86 °F
Majuro	Partly cloudy	82 / 87 °F

## TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY

4:09 AM	LOW TIDE	0.48 Feet
9:54 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.73 Feet
4:17 PM	LOW TIDE	0.54 Feet
10:05 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.78 Feet

## SUNRISE / SUNSET

Today	6:05 AM	6:26 PM
Tuesday	6:05 AM	6:26 PM
Wednesday	6:05 AM	6:25 PM
Thursday	6:05 AM	6:24 PM
Friday	6:05 AM	6:23 PM

## MOONRISE / MOONSET

Today	8:57 AM	9:02 PM
Tuesday	9:44 AM	9:42 PM
Wednesday	10:32 AM	10:23 PM
Thursday	11:20 AM	11:06 PM
Friday	12:09 PM	11:51 PM

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235-3740. E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com). Website: [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

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## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 10, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
<b>SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)</b>				<b>GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN</b>			
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
<b>SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)</b>				<b>GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)</b>			
UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
<b>ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)</b>				<b>ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN</b>			
UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
<b>SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)</b>				<b>NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN</b>			
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
<b>SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)</b>				<b>SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN</b>			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	OZ6053	10:35am	4:05pm	4, 7
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ6063	5:15pm	8:35pm	4, 7	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
<b>SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)</b>				<b>BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN</b>			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
<b>SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)</b>				<b>SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN</b>			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
<b>SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)</b>				<b>BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN</b>			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
<b>SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)</b>				<b>GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN</b>			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)</b>				<b>MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN</b>			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM	PR1571	9:20pm	3:35am+1	3, 7
PR1572	4:35am	6:45am	1, 4	UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/2925	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM				

**ISSUES**

From Page 11

marijuana should and never be considered as a medical or recreational drug of choice, right?

Reasons that seem to point out that seem ludicrous, if I may say. Now if you will, let me try and have our readers agree to this, marijuana has and will continue to be the most studied drug in the whole world, I would say. The next argument would be what is marijuana? Well, let us all agree that marijuana is a drug same as Tylenol, Sudafed, Aspirin, and so forth. If we were to argue about it more, how about this? How is are drugs made? Marijuana is a natural drug that grows out of a seed when planted in the soil and nurtured 'till the most revered part, the buds as they call it, matures and gives of this scent which is comparable to a skunk odor or in our local community, the fruit bat smell.

If you want to get more acquainted to this scent given of by the magnificent fruit bat, I would recommend a visit to the Saipan Zoo where I believe, Mr. Frank Aldan can point you to one. The most commonly used

and readily available drug would be Tylenol. I and most of our readers would most certainly agree that Tylenol is a drug manufactured, processed, and packaged. And as we all would agree any human made products are tainted with flaws to the point where death can be the immediate result if and or when not properly handled or in this case administered. Then another argument, we or our readers would agree on is that any drug has side effects whether it be conducive or non-conducive, if this were the appropriate term to use. Speaking from personal experience and from many study reports on the daily use of marijuana, peculiar side effects of marijuana use is that of the sense of euphoria and the immediate onset of hunger or the feeling of being hungry either for the munchies or such. Now if you were to ask me to explain euphoria—euphoria to me is like a sensation where you feel as if you are connected to each and every living thing that makes our world go on and on and on. Certain side effects on the daily use of Tylenol for example, is liver damage, period. As we all would certainly agree, a damaged liver is irreplac-

**Luciano M. Rangamar**  
Eatonville, Washington

**POEMS****Republican premise: campaign 'in extremis'**

By JOSEPH CONNOLLY

despite many old and new advisors at the conference table  
his lack of knowledge, mixed message, knotty and inextricable  
they found his temperamental attitude twisted and inexpugnable  
as he continued more crude comments and insults despicable  
despite new information and sound bytes quoted in extenso  
he somehow bungled reading what the teleprompters said  
asked if he was speaking figuratively or sarcastically he said no  
and babble on like a bobble top doll, off the top of his head  
and so on with more repetition into his repetitious campaign  
this puerile pattern continued day after day week after week  
as he obstinately refused to cease and desist or try to refrain  
from denigrating and insulting others every time he'd speak  
then came his immigration plan of "extreme extreme vetting"  
in November he'll find out how few Hispanic votes he's getting

**GOP postulate and premise: campaign 'in extremis' II**

By JOSEPH CONNOLLY

"believe me, believe me" "I will always tell you the truth"—D. Trump

well about my latest internal campaign change up adding new personnel  
some call it finding more fawning sycophants and fiscal featherbedding  
I'm sending my new extreme dream team straight into campaign hell  
we'll give Hillary plenty believe me, when you see where we're heading  
we'll look for and find and dupe some voters whose wallets are fat  
believe me, believe me we are not, we are not a campaign 'in extremis'  
yeah we're down in the polls in a few states, what's wrong with that  
gotta love em, the evangelicals, now they are a major major premise  
UNITY? We have plenty with impunity, we got plenty with impunity  
so in general without many changes I accepted the Republican tax plan  
but those major presidential debates on football nights are pure insanity  
the debates are rigged against me, my Tweets, and every football fan  
our campaign, my campaign, is not dying BELIEVE ME BELIEVE ME  
we're still trying and I'm not crying, being sarcastic, but not completely

\*'in extremis' means in extreme circumstances; esp: at the point of death

Joseph "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired CNMI PSS teacher who taught English on Tinian and Saipan from 1984 to 2014. He currently enjoys studying cosmology, Asian poetry, and life on Tinian.

**UNITED STATES**

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

**NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING**

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 12, the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities hereby gives notice that it will hold its 1st Quarter General Membership Meeting on September 15, 2016, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Pacific Islands Club – Charley's Cabaret.

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda of September 15, 2016
- IV. Review and Adoption of Meeting Minutes of May 18, 2016 and Special Meeting Minutes of July 28, 2016
- V. Reports
  - a. Chairperson
  - b. State Plan Committee Chairperson
  - c. Fiscal Committee Chairperson
  - d. Executive Director
- VI. OLD Business
  - a. CNMI Western Pacific Islands Typhoon Readiness Planning Workshop
  - b. National Disability Employment Awareness Month
  - c. Transition Mini Conference
- VII. New Business
  - a. New Membership Orientation
  - b. February – Transition Conference
  - c. Emergency Preparedness Focus Group
- VIII. Action Items
  - a. Ratify/Approval of Proposed Amendment to FY 2016 DD Basic Budget
  - b. Election of Officers
    - i. Vice Chairperson
    - ii. Chairperson
- XI. Next Meeting
- XII. Adjournment

Note: Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 13(a) 7, the Council may vote to meet in Executive Session.

In accordance to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting and require special accommodations are requested to call the Council 5 days in advance at 664-7000. The Public is welcome to submit written or 3 minutes oral comments regarding the agenda above.

/s/ Efren Nicholas  
Interim Chairperson

This ad was paid for by funds from the DD Basic Grant Part A (Administrative)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**Department of Labor**



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## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-16-018

#### FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to perform a financial and compliance audit of the CUC for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. The audit must be performed in compliance with the latest revision of the following guidelines:

1. *OMB Circular A-133*
2. *Standard for Audits of Government Organization, Programs, Activities and Function, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States*
3. *Audits of States and Local Government Units, Industry Audit guide issued by the American Institute of Public Accountants (AICPA)*

The date of contract award will be no later than September 15, 2016. Audit work shall commence thereafter and must be completed by January 31, 2017.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one RFP package set.

**One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies** of the proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-16-018, Financial and Compliance Audit for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2016" to Mr. Michael Pai, Public Auditor, Office of the Public Auditor, 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST), local time, on September 9, 2016**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discuss and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Offeror are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All inquiries regarding the RFP must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 26, 2016** to Michael Pai, Public Auditor, Office of the Public Auditor, 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950 with a copy to Joann Paraiso, CUC Acting Chief Financial Officer, via email address joanne.paraiso@cucgov.org and Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reasons and to waive any defects in any proposals if, in its sole opinion, to do so will be in the best interest of the CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

JAMES SIROK  
Acting Executive Director

MANUEL B. SABLAM  
Purchasing Officer



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



### INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-16-020

#### ROTA WATER SUPPLY PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Rota Water Supply Project, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of the demolition of existing bldg. structure, fence, pipes, valves, including appurtenances, installation of new 6-inch, 8-inch, & 10-inch PVC water line complete with necessary valves and fittings, construction of new three wells bldg., chlorination building, booster pump building, the relocation and replacement of two existing pressure reducing valves (PRV's), the installation of a new PRV, and several reconfigurations of the existing water system.

*This project is funded by a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.*

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on August 25, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-16-020, Rota Water Supply Project" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 14, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidder. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on August 29, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, CUC Chief Engineer-Water/Wastewater-john.riegel@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant- marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

JAMES SIROK  
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAM  
Purchasing Officer

## AMP launches 2016 Every Kid in a Park program



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A student looks up the name of one of the casualties of the Pacific War at one of the many memorials at the American Memorial Park.

American Memorial Park encourages all fourth graders to visit the park this year as part of the Every Kid in a Park program.

Superintendent Jim Richardson said, "There's so much to discover at American Memorial Park and we're excited to welcome fourth graders and their families throughout the year. We hope that our young visitors learn and have fun in the great outdoors and develop a lifelong connection to our nation's land, water, and wildlife."

American Memorial Park was selected to receive a 2016 field trip grant from the National Park Foundation, the official charity of America's national parks, to support the Every Kid in a Park program. The grant is part of the Foundation's Open OutDoors for Kids program. Students and teachers visit the national park where they will join park educators and Park Rangers on guided tours and various activities. Student activities include viewing the park film and a guided tour through the

#### » Receives field trip grant from the National Park Foundation

a school that tell a civil rights story, looking up at a dark night sky, or pitching a tent with a friend for the first time, these children are forever impacted. We appreciate the power of national parks and, through our support, the National Park Foundation hopes to share them with as many kids as possible."

Every Kid in a Park is part of President Obama's commitment to protect our nation's unique outdoor spaces and ensure that every American has the opportunity to visit and enjoy them. The program, now entering its second year, is a call to action for children to experience America's spectacular out-

doors, rich history, and culture.

Every Kid in a Park is a crucial component of a multi-pronged approach to inspire the next generation to discover all that our nation's public lands and waters have to offer, including opportunities to be active, spend time with friends and family, and serve as living classrooms to build critical skills.

The Every Kid in a Park program is an Administration-wide effort between the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of the Army, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The program continues each year with the then-current group of fourth graders. After 12 years, every school-age child in America will have had an opportunity to visit their public land and waters for free, inspiring the next generation to be stewards of our nation's shared natural and cultural heritage.

For more information, please visit [www.everykidinapark.gov](http://www.everykidinapark.gov) and follow the program on Twitter @everykidinapark, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. (PR)

## Navy, Air Force to Conduct Training at W-517, FDM

**ASAN, GUAM**—The Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 (W-517) during the following dates and times:

- Sept 6 and 7 from 8am to 10pm
- Sept. 8 from noon to 10pm

The Air Force and Navy will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Sept. 6 and 7 from 8:30am to 7pm
- Sept. 9 from 7:30am to 11pm
- Sept. 10 and 11 from 11am to 11pm

The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 10-nautical mile radius

on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides frequent access that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon, located in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, provide sufficient room to conduct the many training profiles required to support aircrew combat readiness requirements.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055/3209. (PR)

# PATA Micronesia Tri-Annual Chapter meeting held in Pohnpei

The second Tri-annual Meeting of the Pacific Asia Travel Association Micronesia Chapter was held from Aug. 15 to 18 in the state of Pohnpei in the Federated States of Micronesia. The meeting in Pohnpei featured special guest speaker Andrew Jones, the new PATA chairman.

"We are very excited to hold our second Tri-Annual meeting this year in Pohnpei with chairman Jones, especially on the heels of the PATA Annual Summit held for the first time in Micronesia earlier this year," said Pilar Laguana, PATA Micronesia chairwoman. "We warmly welcome new members from throughout the region who want to partner together in marketing the Micronesia destination through travel and tourism in the interest of building our visitor economies."

The presence of Jones was the opportune time to unveil the commemorative plaque made in honor of the 65th anniversary of PATA that was celebrated during the PATA Annual Summit on Guam.

The unveiling ceremony took place on Aug. 19, 2016 at the A.B. Won Pat Guam International Airport Authority.

"We are happy that the Guam International Airport Authority, a PATA member, has graciously granted us the honor of displaying this commemorative plaque to acknowledge and celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the Pacific Asia Travel Association, of which, the Government of Guam was a founding member. PATA also acknowledged the dynamic work and leadership provided by the Guam Visitors Bureau, the PATA Micronesia Chapter, the United Nations World Tourism Organization and the Guam International Airport Authority for recognizing this historic time in our travel and tourism history," stated Guam Visitors Bureau president and CEO Jon Nathan Denight.

PATA is a membership association acting as a catalyst for the responsible development of the Asia Pacific travel and tourism industry. The PATA Micronesia Chapter consists

of members from the Micronesia region directly in the tourism industry, including national and state tourism offices. In partnership with PATA's private and public sector members, the organization enhances the sustainable growth, value and quality of travel and tourism to, from, and within the region. The PATA Micronesia Chapter conducts regular meetings throughout the region.

Most recently, PATA Micronesia members attended the PATA Annual Summit in Guam on May 18-21, followed by Festival of Pacific Arts on May 22-June 24. Prior to that, the 1st Tri-Annual chapter meeting was held on Saipan on March 30-April 1, 2016.

Membership may be applied for by contacting the PATA treasurer Judy C. Torres at judytorres@gmail.com or Regina Nedlic at regina.nedlic@visitguam.org.

For more information on PATA, contact Chairwoman Pilar Laguana at pilar.laguana@visitguam.org or visit [www.micnesiatour.com](http://www.micronesiatour.com). (PR)



**CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**  
From left, Guam International Airport Authority executive manager Charles Ada III, Guam Visitors Bureau CEO and president Jon Nathan Denight, GVB Board members Norio Nakajima and Milton Morinaga, Guam acting governor Ray Tenorio, PATA chair Andrew Jones, GIAA acting chair Kathy Sgro, GVB vice president Telo Tatague, GVB director of Global Marketing and PATA Micronesia chapter Pilar Laguana, and GIAA deputy executive manager Peter Roy Martinez pose for a group photo.

**CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**  
PATA chair Andrew Jones was the guest speaker at the tri-annual meeting of the PATA Micronesia chapter from Aug. 15 to 18 in Pohnpei.



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



### INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-16-021

#### SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF PRESTRESSED CONCRETE POWER POLES

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Supply and Delivery of Prestressed Concrete Power Poles for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and CUC. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from FEMA.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one IFB package set.

**One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies** of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-16-021, Supply & Delivery of Prestressed Concrete Power Poles" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on September 21, 2016, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract(s) is contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission and the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Board of Director's approval. The contract(s) will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on September 6, 2016 to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address-manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Joseph Crisostomo, CUC Power Division, Purchasing Technician via email address-joe.crisostomo@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant via email address - marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

**GARY P. CAMACHO**  
Acting Executive Director

**MANNY B. SABLAM**  
Purchasing Officer

## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



### INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-16-022

#### LIFT STATION RENOVATION PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Lift Station Renovation Project in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project consists of the renovation and upgrade of the S-6, S-10, SR-1, and A-7 Sewer Lift Stations.

The work shall be done not to disrupt the daily operation of the sewer discharge. The work includes rehabilitation of wet wells, valve vaults, a bar screen and flow monitor vault, removal of existing pumps, pipes, fittings and appurtenances, installation of new pumps, guide rails, control panels, pipes and fittings, installation of a new fence and gate, the installation and operation of a temporary wastewater bypass system, and other related work.

*The project is funded by a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and CUC. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.*

CUC requires the project to be completed in **365 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **August 30, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 7, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**ONE (1) original and FIVE (5) hard copies of the bid MUST** be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-16-022, Lift Station Renovation" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 16, 2016**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract may be contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) approval. If CPUC approval is required, the contract will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 1, 2016** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address-manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, W/WW Chief Engineer via email address-john.riegel@cucgov.org, Nicolette Villagomez, W/WW Junior Engineer via email address-nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org, Birhen Martinez, W/WW Senior Engineer via email address-birhen.martinez@cucgov.org and Ms. Marcela Tenorio, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant via email address - marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

**JAMES SIROK**  
Acting Executive Director

**MANNY B. SABLAM**  
Purchasing Officer

# GWA awarded \$55.3M for civilian water, wastewater improvements

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo announced that the Department of Defense has awarded the Guam Waterworks Authority \$55.30 million for civilian water and wastewater improvement projects related to the realignment of Marines from Okinawa to Guam. These projects were obligated in July as part of a \$106.4 million appropriation that was approved by Congress and was authorized by a provision sponsored by Congresswoman Bordallo in the FY16 NDAA.

The funding includes the following:

- \$21,000,000 grant to Guam Waterworks Authority: Northern District Water Treatment Plant for the final planning and design, overall program/construction management services, and installation of diffuser on outfall.
- \$30,600,000 grant to Guam Waterworks Authority: Interceptor Sewer Line Replacement for final planning, design, and construction to refurbish the sewer line in Northern Guam which supports Andersen Air Force Base and the new Marine Corps Base.

Corps Base.

- \$3,700,000 grant to Guam Waterworks Authority: Northern Guam Lens Aquifer Monitoring System Expansion/Rehabilitation for final planning, design, and construction to improve the monitoring system for Guam's sole source of fresh water aquifer.

"I am pleased DoD has released funding to GWA for civilian water and wastewater improvement projects that were approved by a provision I sponsored in last year's defense authorization bill. I will continue to work with my fellow conferees to ensure that the NDAA provides the DoD with the authority to help address civilian infrastructure needs." (PR)

## BSI AT GUAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Brad Wilson, marketing director of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), poses with John Stewart, Guam Chamber of Commerce member and president of Skydive Guam/Saipan and Aviation Concept Inc. during a successful presentation of the launch of Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s "Party Like A VIP" package at the Guam Chamber of Commerce last Aug. 31.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



"Party Like VIP" package pamphlets and brochures were also on display during the Guam Chamber of Commerce presentation.



## 'WE CAN BEAT THIS TOGETHER'

In celebrating September as Childhood and Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, the Commonwealth Cancer Association partnered with Best Sunshine International, Ltd., through its Corporate Social Responsibility department, in pushing for an aggressive awareness campaign. Photo shows the BSI-CSR team gather together before last Thursday's roadside waving at the Navy Hill intersection to begin its awareness campaign to mark September as Childhood and Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.



The lovely ladies of the BSI-CSR team reminds motorists and the public, in general, by flashing cutout blue and gold ribbons.



First lady Diann Torres and her children join Commonwealth Cancer Association program manager Juan L. Babauta and BSI CSR executive director Geri Dela Cruz in the roadside waving activity.



The BSI-CSR team men also join in the roadside waving activity.

## UOG releases Campus Climate Survey Report

In April 2016, the University of Guam conducted an institutional-wide survey of students, faculty, staff, and administrators to assess the perceptions regarding, and attitudes toward the general campus climate of the university. The survey focused particularly on perceptions of campus life and safety; level of satisfaction with services; incidences of sexual misconduct; perceptions of, and willingness to report sexual misconduct; perceptions of leadership, policies, and reporting of sexual misconduct incidences; and demographics.

The survey was conducted online. A total of 708 respondents completed the survey, yielding a final response rate of 15.6 percent of combined UOG students, faculty, staff, and administrators.

"This survey is the first of its kind for the University," said UOG president Dr. Robert Underwood. "We hope to conduct this survey on an annual basis to help us respond quickly to areas that need improvement or attention."

The UOG Campus Climate survey was administered and conducted by a committee of UOG faculty, staff, and administrators: Dr. Unaisi Nabobobo-Baba, professor (chair); Dr. Francis Dalisay, assistant professor (co-principal investigator); Dr. Richard Colfax, professor (co-principal investigator); Peter Barcinas, extension agent (member); Dr. Lisa Natividad, Ph.D., associate professor (member); Dr. Robert Underwood, UOG president, (co-principal investigator). The report and analyses were completed by Dr. Francis Dalisay.

The 2016 Campus Climate Survey Report is available at [www.uog.edu/climate-survey](http://www.uog.edu/climate-survey). (PR)

## Vincent Perez appointed BOH vice president

**HONOLULU, Hawaii**—Vincent Perez has been appointed vice president and commercial banking officer of the Guam Commercial Banking Center where he manages a portfolio of commercial customer accounts,



which includes responsibility for maintaining and growing existing customer relationships and building new business relationships.

Perez rejoins Bank of Hawaii after having worked as a real estate loan underwriter at Luther Burbank Savings, and as an assistant vice president and senior credit analyst at California Bank & Trust's (Zions Bancorporation) corporate banking group for the past four years, both in San Francisco, California.

He holds a bachelor of business administration degree from the University of Guam and will earn his master's degree in December in Asia Pacific studies from the University of San Francisco in California. Perez is a member of the Guam Young Professionals and the Asia Society of Northern California. (PR)



# Nation

## Hermine kills two, ruins beach weekends in northward march

By JESSICA GRESKO  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The once-and-future Hurricane Hermine regained strength Saturday as it moved slowly up the Eastern Seaboard and made a mess of the holiday weekend.

Hermine (her-MEEN) already caused two deaths, damaged properties and left hundreds of thousands without electricity from Florida to Virginia. It spawned a tornado in North Carolina and closed beaches as far north as New York.

"This is not a beach weekend for anyone in the Mid-Atlantic to the northeast," said Eric Blake, a hurricane specialist at the National Hurricane Center in Miami.

Hermine rose up over the Gulf of Mexico and hit Florida

on Friday as a Category 1 hurricane before weakening to a tropical storm across Georgia.

By 11 p.m. Saturday, Hermine's top sustained winds remained at 70 mph (110 kph) as it moved east-northeast at 13 mph (20 kph). The storm, expected to turn northward on Sunday, was centered about 205 miles southeast of Ocean City, Maryland.

Forecasters expected Hermine to regain hurricane force on Sunday as it travels up the coast before weakening again to a tropical storm by Tuesday.

Governors all along the coast announced emergency preparations. Tropical storm warnings were in effect as far north as Connecticut.

And since sea levels have risen up to a foot due to global warming, the storm surges

pushed by Hermine could be even more damaging, climate scientists say.

Michael Mann at Pennsylvania State University noted that this century's one-foot sea-level rise in New York City meant 25 more square miles flooded during Superstorm Sandy, causing billions more in damage.

"We are already experiencing more and more flooding due to climate change in every storm," said Michael Oppenheimer, a geosciences professor at Princeton University. "And it's only the beginning."

The winds and rain were so strong Saturday in North Carolina that all bridges to the Outer Banks were closed for several hours following a deadly accident over the intracoastal waterway.

## Record-tying Oklahoma earthquake felt as far away as Arizona

**OKLAHOMA CITY** (AP)—A record-tying earthquake in the edge of Oklahoma's key energy-producing areas rattled the Midwest from Illinois to the southwest part of Texas on Saturday, bringing fresh attention to the practice of disposing oil and gas field wastewater deep underground.

The United States Geological Survey said a 5.6 magnitude earthquake happened at 7:02 a.m. Saturday in north-central Oklahoma, on the fringe of an area where regulators had stepped in to limit wastewater disposal. That tremor matches a November 2011 quake in the same region.

An increase in magnitude

3.0 or greater earthquakes in Oklahoma has been linked to underground disposal of wastewater from oil and natural gas production.

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission, which since 2013 has asked wastewater-well owners to reduce disposal volumes in parts of the state, is requiring 37 wells in a 514 square-mile area around the epicenter of the earthquake to shut down within seven to 10 days because of previous connections between the injection of wastewater and earthquakes.

Skinner said the commission's "area of interest" includes another 211 square miles in Osage County. However, he said the commission doesn't know how many wells may be involved because the area is under the jurisdiction of the Environmental Protection Agency, and the commission is working with that agency.

## Son shot, home flooded: 2 tragedies rock 1 Louisiana family

**BATON ROUGE, La.** (AP)—For nearly 50 days, James Tullier has barely left the Baton Rouge hospital where he's held vigil for his son, a sheriff's deputy wounded in an ambush that killed three other officers—not even when his family was hit by a second tragedy, their homes wrecked in historic flooding.

Tullier doesn't have time to mourn the damage to his house, or the neighboring homes of his other two sons. Doctors initially feared that Nick Tullier had less than 24 hours to live after the shooting.

"The house could have washed away. It's just not a priority to us. Nick is our priority," James Tullier said during an interview at Our Lady

of the Lake Regional Medical Center, where James, his wife, Mary, and Nick's fiancee take shifts at his bedside.

Now, the family sees a miracle. James Tullier said his 41-year-old son is in a coma but began responding to relatives' words less than a week ago—by blinking an eye, moving toes and squeezing his mother's hand.

"Medically, he's not supposed to be here," Tullier said of Nick, who has two teenage sons, Trent and Gage.

Early estimates indicate more than 150,000 homes in south Louisiana were destroyed or damaged in the flooding. While tens of thousands of residents have returned to salvage waterlogged belongings and muck out their homes, James Tullier hasn't

even set foot inside his.

He recently stopped by the property in Denham Springs—a Baton Rouge suburb where floodwaters damaged roughly 90 percent of homes and businesses—to fix his mailbox. It's all he's seen of the damage from water that topped the light switches on the home's first floor.

His 83-year-old mother is living with 10 dogs—nine of them hers, one she took in after the flooding—on the second floor of the damaged house because her trailer home flooded. James Tullier's other two sons also were displaced by the damage to their homes. Tullier, 62, is staying in a motor home parked outside the hospital, while his wife and Nick's fiancee sleep at the hospital.

# World

## PH president declares 'state of lawlessness' after bomb kills 14

**DAVAO, Philippines** (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte declared a nationwide "state of lawlessness" Saturday after suspected Abu Sayyaf extremists detonated a bomb that killed 14 people and wounded about 70 in his southern hometown.

Duterte, who inspected the scene of Friday night's attack at a night market in downtown Davao city, said his declaration did not amount to an imposition of martial law. It allows troops to be deployed in urban centers to back up the police in setting up checkpoints and increasing patrols, he said.

An Abu Sayyaf spokesman, Abu Rami, claimed responsibility for the blast near the Jesuit-run Ateneo de Davao University and a five-star hotel, but Duterte told reporters at the scene



said investigators were looking at other possible suspects, including drug syndicates, which he has targeted in a bloody crackdown.

"These are extraordinary times and I supposed that I'm authorized to allow the security forces of this country to do searches," Duterte told reporters at the scene

**US, Russia close on Syria deal, but Obama says not there yet**

about what's needed to end Syria's civil war and which opposition groups are legitimate targets for the U.S. and Russian militaries. But he said "it is worth trying" to secure an agreement nonetheless, adding that negotiators were working "around the clock."

Obama, speaking on the sidelines of the Group of 20 economic summit in China, said the U.S. and Russia still have "grave differences"

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### Mother Teresa honored as saint and model of mercy

**VATICAN CITY** (AP)—Thousands of pilgrims are thronging to St. Peter's Square for the canonization of Mother Teresa, the tiny nun who cared for the world's most unwanted and became the icon of a Catholic Church that goes to the peripheries to find lost, wounded souls. Pope Francis is declaring Mother Teresa a saint at a Sunday morning Mass, making her the model of his Jubilee Year of Mercy and in some ways his entire papacy. For Francis, Mother Teresa put into action his ideal for the church to be a merciful "field hospital" for the poorest of the poor—both materially and spiritually. Throughout the night, pilgrims prayed at vigils in area churches and flocked before dawn to the Vatican under heavy security to try to get

a good spot for the Mass that was expected to draw more than 100,000 people.

#### Shootouts in Mexico border city kill 11, including bystander

**CIUDAD VICTORIA, Mexico** (AP)—Two highway shootouts between soldiers and suspected drug gang members in a northern border city resulted in 11 dead Saturday, including a bystander caught in the crossfire, Mexican authorities reported. The violence in Nuevo Laredo, across from Laredo, Texas, prompted the temporary closure of the highway, which is a major artery for travel and commerce between the United States and Mexico. The Tamaulipas state government said in a statement that the armed confrontations began early Saturday when troops killed eight suspected criminals on the highway. Soldiers seized a truck and high-caliber weapons, it said.

of the attack, asking the public to cooperate and be vigilant.

"We're trying to cope up with a crisis now. There is a crisis in this country involving drugs, extrajudicial killings and there seems to be an environment of lawless violence," said Duterte, who served as mayor of Davao for years before being elected president in June.

The attack came as Philippine forces were on alert amid an ongoing military offensive against Abu Sayyaf extremists in southern Sulu province that intensified last week after the militants beheaded a kidnapped villager. The militants threatened to launch an unspecified attack after the military said 30 of the gunmen were killed in the weeklong offensive.

A deal could be announced as early as Sunday by U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, said a senior U.S. State Department official, adding that the two countries were close to a deal but still had to resolve some issues. The official wasn't authorized to discuss the negotiations publicly and requested anonymity.

#### Nigeria's urgent polio vaccination drive targets 25 million

**MAIDUGURI, Nigeria** (AP)—An emergency polio vaccination campaign aimed at reaching 25 million children this year has begun in parts of Nigeria newly freed from Boko Haram Islamic extremists, with fears that many more cases of the crippling disease will likely be found. Two toddlers discovered last month were Nigeria's first reported polio cases in more than two years, putting the world on alert just months after the African continent was declared free of the disease. One member of the Rotary Club's "End Polio Now" drive said he almost cried when he got the news. It was a major blow to global efforts to stamp out polio, which persists in only two other countries, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

# Health & Fitness

## Teens showing signs of 'text neck'

By VIKKI ORTIZ HEALY  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Think your kid's posture is starting to suffer from always looking down at a cellphone?

It is, according to a national chain of physical therapy clinics, which reports that more teens than ever are complaining of "text neck," or back and neck pain that can only be explained by the strain on the body caused by constant viewing of hand-held technology.

"We have teens experiencing the same shoulder, neck and back pain usually felt by people 30 years older," said Megan Randich, a physical therapist and facility manager for Athletico in Westchester, Ill. "They shouldn't be experiencing those issues."

Randich said spine specialists also are seeing evidence of strain from cellphone, tablet and laptop use in high school athletes who complain that they don't have the normal range of motion — or feel pain when trying to throw a baseball, strike a football stance or perform in other sporting activities.

The physical therapists' findings echo research published in 2014 in the National

Library of Medicine, which warned that the extra weight — sometimes up to 60 pounds — on the cervical spine caused by looking down can lead to wear-and-tear on the spine, degeneration and even surgery.

Elaina Towns, a mother of three in Palatine, Ill., said she and her husband routinely try to enforce rules to limit their kids' screen time, and thus, strain on their bodies. The family doesn't allow technology use during dinner or at family gatherings. By 10:30 p.m. all electronics must be docked in a charging station and remain off all night, she said.

Still, Towns said she thinks all young people growing up in this era are at risk for text neck.

"I have kids who are very active and not plugged in all the time, but nonetheless, I completely believe that this could have an effect on this generation moving forward," she said. "They don't talk on the phone, for starters, so all their communication through peers is through texting. They're not even picking up their heads."

Athletico, the Oak-Brook, Ill.-based company with 350 clinics across the U.S., is so

concerned about the prevalence of text neck that it has produced a list of stretches and exercises teens may do to correct the damage and improve damaged tissue.

The exercises include:

■ Shoulder Blade Squeeze: Pinch your shoulder blades back behind you, working to touch your elbows. Once back as far as you can go, hold the position for 5 seconds before relaxing. Repeat 20 to 30 times.

■ Neck Stretch: Sit up tall with your head held high. Pull chin toward your chest, creating a double chin, and hold this position for 5 seconds. Repeat this 20 to 30 times.

■ Chest Stretch: Stand in the middle of a doorway and hold both ends of the door frame. Lean forward until you feel a stretch. Hold this position for 5 seconds and repeat 20 to 30 times.

Randich added that another way for teens to combat text neck: Get outside and be active.

"Before this generation, there was so much more outdoor free play," she said. "Activities used to counter any poor posture or positioning. They're no longer doing that."



Physical therapists say they're seeing more and more people come in with the "text neck"—sore and damaged necks from looking down at our phones so much. TNS

## Fitbit makes exercise even more of a game

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Fitbit wants to help you exercise more by making you think you're hiking famous trails instead of strolling around your neighborhood.

The new motivational feature, called Adventures, will be available to all Fitbit users through a free app update

Monday.

The feature tracks the distance you've walked or run and maps it against actual trails, starting with three at Yosemite National Park in California. The Fitbit app will unlock badge-like images of trail landmarks—say, a scenic waterfall at mile 5—as

you progress. Other rewards include "fun facts" and health tips along the way. Fitbit will add other destinations, including the ability to "run" the course of the New York City Marathon.

One of Fitbit's most popular features has been its ability to let friends and family compare steps they've taken throughout the day. Fitbit says those who participate in such challenges tend to take 30 percent more steps. The company says Adventures is designed to offer similar challenges even if people haven't assembled real-life groups.

The feature might help some users stick with step tracking and other fitness measures after the novelty wears off. People who keep using their Fitbits are more likely to tell their friends about them, and to upgrade to more advanced models themselves, analysts say.

Fitbit, the market leader in wearable devices, is also updating two older devices, the 2013 Flex and the 2014 Charge, mostly to bring them in line with what newer devices and rivals offer. Besides tracking steps and sleep, the Flex 2 and the Charge 2 will remind people to take mov-

ing breaks throughout the day. That's coming to the Fitbit Blaze, too, through a software update.

The Charge 2 will have a heart-rate monitor, a feature previously limited to the HR edition of the Charge. It will guide users to take deep-breathing breaks, something the Apple Watch will also soon do. One new feature promises a quick snapshot of cardiovascular fitness based on a metric known as VO2 max. While this typically requires running on a treadmill with an oxygen mask, Fitbit estimates it using running speed and heart rate instead. There's been no independent testing yet on the method's accuracy, though the company is confident.

Meanwhile, the Flex 2 will be the first Fitbit with sufficient water resistance for use during swimming. Fitbit rivals like Garmin already offer that on some devices.

The Charge 2 is expected to ship in September for \$150, while the Flex 2 will come in October for \$100.



AP

This image provided by Fitbit shows the Fitbit Charge 2.

5<sup>TH</sup> YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY  
In Loving Memory of Our Beloved

*Margarita Jones Castro*

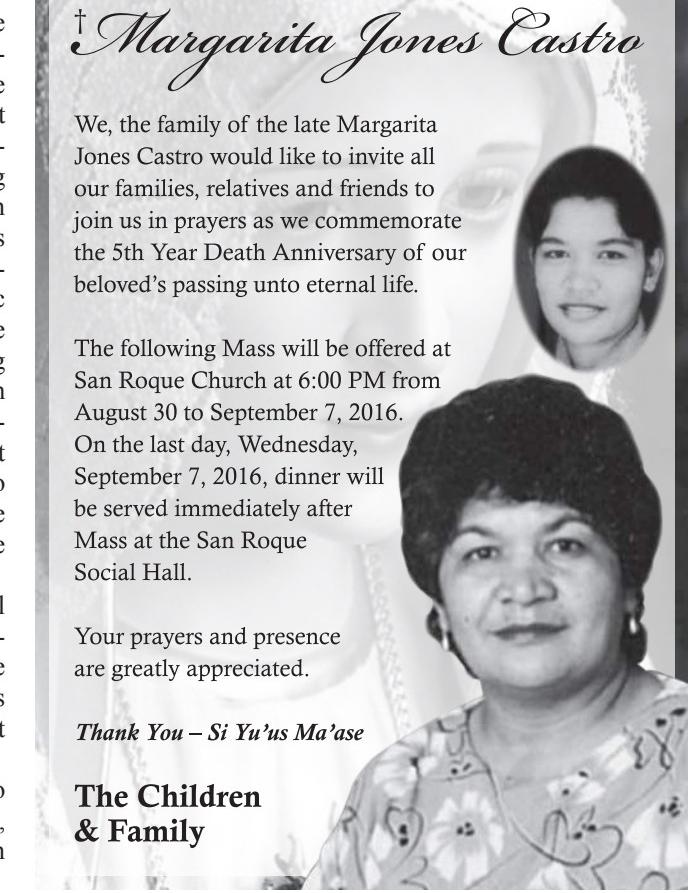
We, the family of the late Margarita Jones Castro would like to invite all our families, relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the 5th Year Death Anniversary of our beloved's passing unto eternal life.

The following Mass will be offered at San Roque Church at 6:00 PM from August 30 to September 7, 2016. On the last day, Wednesday, September 7, 2016, dinner will be served immediately after Mass at the San Roque Social Hall.

Your prayers and presence are greatly appreciated.

*Thank You – Si Yu'us Ma'ase*

**The Children & Family**



# Life & Style

**WHAT IF:**

# Could a debate smackdown shake up the election?

**W**ASHINGTON (AP) —Get ready for some must-see TV.

The fall debates are always a big part of any presidential campaign. But with many 2016 voters underwhelmed by both Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, this year's debates could well be more influential than usual.

"Because the electorate is so volatile this year, it doesn't take nearly as much to get a loosely aligned voter to switch their allegiance," says Dan Schnur, director of the University of Southern California's political institute.

With Trump in the mix, there's also plenty of potential for shock value.

"Mass audiences are going to be tuning in to look for a smackdown," says Eric



AP

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton, left, and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump in these 2016 file photos.

Dezenhall, a Washington crisis management consultant.

In the primaries, Trump grabbed the spotlight in the

opening minutes of the first of a dozen GOP debates, when he was the only candidate to refuse to rule out a third-

party run for president. He rarely relinquished it, dropping jaws at one point when he matter-of-factly referred

## Fall Movie Preview: Highlights from September to December

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—There's something for everyone in movie theaters this fall. The calendar is jam-packed with romance, spectacle and jaw-dropping true life stories.

Some of our most familiar franchises take bold leaps into undiscovered areas of their universes: Marvel side-steps into the metaphysical with the Benedict Cumberbatch-led "Doctor Strange" (Nov. 4), J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter world gets new life in "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" (Nov. 18), and we find out just how those rebels stole the Death Star plans in "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story" (Dec. 16).

A monthly rundown of fall highlights:

### SEPTEMBER

"Sully" (Sept. 9)—Director Clint Eastwood takes audiences behind the scenes of the investigation around the Miracle on the Hudson, with Tom Hanks as Capt. Chesley Sullenberger.

"The Magnificent Seven" (Sept. 23)—Denzel Washington and Chris Pratt head to the old West in Antoine Fuqua's remake of the John Sturges film, itself a remake of "Seven Samurai."

"Deepwater Horizon" (Sept. 30)—Discover the true story of what happened to the men and women on the oil rig that caused the catastrophic Gulf of Mexico oil spill. Mark Wahlberg, Kurt Russell and Gina Rodriguez star.

"American Honey" (Sept. 30)—Go on an atmospheric road trip through the Midwest with some drifting teens, including a revelatory Shia LaBeouf.

### OCTOBER

"The Birth of a Nation" (Oct. 7)—Controversy surrounding writer, director and star Nate Parker aside, his film tells the fascinating story of Nat Turner's 1831 slave rebellion.

"The Girl on the Train" (Oct. 7)—Emily Blunt stars in this adaptation of Paula Hawkins' best-selling thriller about a divorced woman who becomes entangled in the mysterious disappearance of a woman she'd watched from afar.

"The Accountant" (Oct. 14)—Who said accounting was boring? A math whiz with some dangerous clients gets in over his head in the new Gavin O'Connor thriller. Ben Affleck, Anna Kendrick and J.K. Simmons star.

"Moonlight" (Oct. 21)—Director Barry Jenkins tells a lyrical coming of age story set in the underbelly of Miami's drug scene with the help of Naomie Harris and Janelle Monae.

"Inferno" (Oct. 28)—Tom Hanks reprises his role as symbologist Robert Langdon in the Dan Brown series.

### NOVEMBER

"Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk" (Nov. 11)—A young Iraq veteran returns home for a victory tour in Ang Lee's adaptation of Ben Fountain's acclaimed novel.

"Arrival" (Nov. 11)—Amy Adams and Jeremy Renner star in director Denis Villeneuve's mind-bendingly intelligent alien encounter drama.

"Manchester by the Sea" (Nov. 18)—Kenneth Lonergan spins a poetic tale of family and tragedy in a film that's been pegged as an Oscar contender since January. Casey Affleck, Michelle Williams and Kyle Chandler star.

"Moana" (Nov. 23)—Disney Animation takes us back thousands of years to the South Pacific for a story about young woman who sets sail for a fabled island. Dwayne Johnson voices a

demigod, of course.

"Rules Don't Apply" (Nov. 23)—After a 15-year hiatus from films, Warren Beatty returns to the form with an ode to 1950s Hollywood and riff on prudish mores with Lily Collins and Alden Ehrenreich. Beatty plays Howard Hughes.

### DECEMBER

"La La Land" (Dec. 2)—A moody musician (Ryan Gosling) and an aspiring actress (Emma Stone) fall in love while pursuing their dreams in this musical dreamscape from "Whiplash" writer-director Damien Chazelle.

"Fences" (Dec. 16)—Denzel Washington directs himself and Viola Davis reprising their Tony-winning roles in this August Wilson adaptation.

"Passengers" (Dec. 21)—Jennifer Lawrence and Chris Pratt are jolted out of hypersleep 60 years early in a spacecraft traveling to a distant planet.

"A Monster Calls" (Dec. 23)—Get transported away from life's hardships to a land of monsters and magic in director J.A. Bayona's fantastical adaptation of Patrick Ness's children's novel, with Liam Neeson as the tree monster.

to the size of his genitalia.

The nine Democratic debates showcased Clinton as an experienced debater, although the highlight may have been Bernie Sanders' curt dismissal of all the attention being paid to Clinton's "damn emails."

Over the past half-century, general-election debates have offered plenty of moments of televised high drama—but knockouts are rare.

In 1980, a cheerful Ronald Reagan shone in his debate against President Jimmy Carter, scolding him with a gentle "there you go again," and posing a pointed closing question: "Are you better off than you were four years ago?" Pollsters reported a resulting sharp shift in public opinion, according to Alan Schroeder's book, "Presidential Debates: Forty Years of High-Risk TV."

Two decades earlier, in the first televised debates, a sickly, fatigued and unprepared

Richard Nixon never recovered from his disastrous performance in the first of three 1960 face-offs with then-Sen. John F. Kennedy.

This year, given Trump's unpredictability, says Schroeder: "You've got a recipe for a highly combustible situation."

"For viewers, it creates a scenario that virtually compels them to watch," he says. "Anything that happens on that stage will therefore be magnified exponentially."

There are questions about how this fall's debates will unfold: Trump has been complaining that two of them conflict with NFL games, and expressed concern that moderators might not be fair. He's said he wants to participate, but hasn't entirely committed.

The presidential debates are scheduled for Sept. 26, Oct. 9 and Oct. 19. A vice presidential debate is set for Oct. 4.

## Michael Phelps has 'never seen' Ryan Lochte's dance moves



AP

In this Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2016, file photo, United States' Michael Phelps, left, and Ryan Lochte celebrate winning the gold medal in the men's 4x200-meter freestyle relay during the swimming competitions at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Michael Phelps isn't sure what kind of moves Ryan Lochte has planned for "Dancing with the Stars."

"I've never seen him dance," the 23-time Olympic gold medalist said Friday at the "Call of Duty" fan convention in Inglewood, California.

Lochte is competing against such celebs as rapper Vanilla Ice and "The Brady Bunch" actress Maureen McCormick in the ABC dancing competition's latest season.

Phelps said he isn't planning a trip to the ballroom to root for his teammate, the beleaguered swimmer who is facing charges from Brazilian police that he filed a false robbery report during the recent Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

"I have a very busy schedule," Phelps said. "I'm getting married at the end of the year

and have some work here and there. I don't know if I'll be able to make it."

Phelps, a longtime fan of the interactive shooter series "Call of Duty," was on hand at the event to check out the latest edition, "Call of Duty: Infinite Warfare." He's hopeful now that he's retired from competing that he'll be able to log more hours in the game, although finance Nicole Johnson and newborn baby Boomer may deter him from death matches.

"We have a little guy," Phelps said. "We have a lot of traveling and everything going on. I look forward to traveling with an Xbox more often now and getting in as many games as I can."

Phelps said he typically played hundreds of "Call of Duty" matches when preparing for swimming competitions.

# Lawyer for Chris Brown: no guns, drugs found in house search

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Police did not find guns or drugs during a search of singer Chris Brown's mansion before his arrest on allegations he threatened a model at gunpoint, his lawyer said Friday.

Attorney Mark Geragos said he was present during the search and police did not find evidence to corroborate the accuser's story, including a specific piece of jewelry that she said triggered the incident.

Baylee Curran told reporters that Brown pointed a gun at her face after he and another man became angry with her when she admired the man's diamond necklace.

Brown was arrested Tuesday on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon. He was released on \$250,000 bail.

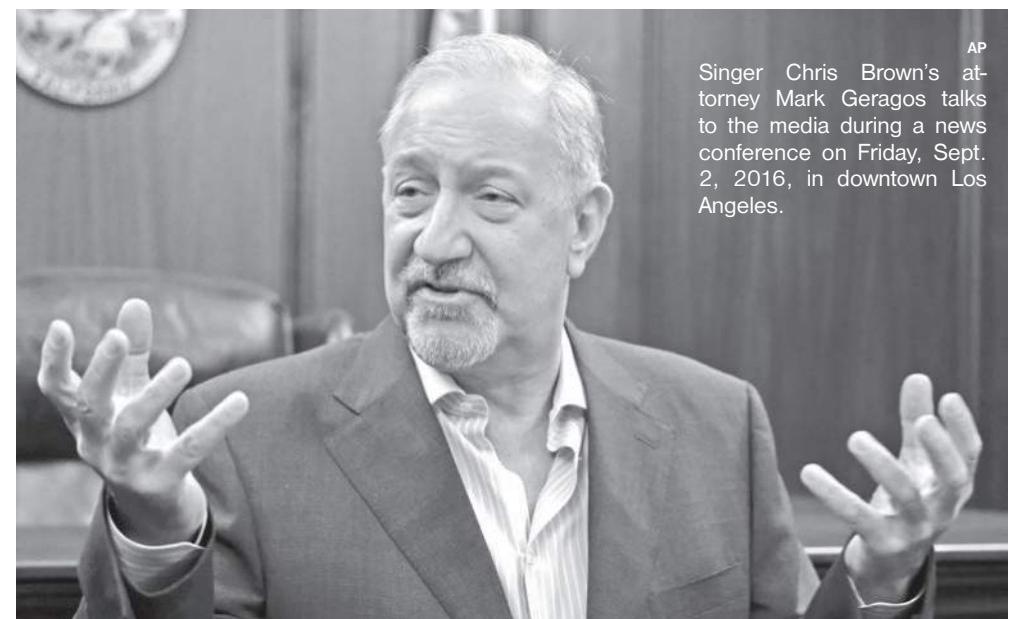
Geragos said the accuser's story was fabricated.

"This woman got irate when she was asked to leave

because she was acting in an erratic manner," Geragos said.

Capt. Andy Neiman said the Los Angeles Police Department is working with prosecutors to review the evidence and not commenting on the case.

The Grammy-winning Brown has had legal trouble since his felony conviction in the 2009 assault of then-girlfriend, Rihanna. He completed probation in that case last year.



Singer Chris Brown's attorney Mark Geragos talks to the media during a news conference on Friday, Sept. 2, 2016, in downtown Los Angeles. AP

## SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

### Vandal damages Justin Bieber sand sculpture at NY state fair

**GEDDES, N.Y.** (AP)—Police are looking for the vandal who defaced a sand sculpture of Justin Bieber at the New York State Fair. State police tell the Post-Standard of Syracuse that the sculpture apparently was vandalized Thursday night. Bieber's likeness was part of a 200-ton sand sculpture depicting artists who performed at the fair's old grandstand, which was imploded in January. Bieber's face appeared near the base of the sculpture. He was below the Charlie Daniels Band and singer Charley Pride and to the left of actor Steve Martin. The fair runs through Monday in Geddes, near Syracuse.

### Louisiana boy finds bag of meth in video game package

**LAKE CHARLES, La.** (AP)—It was Grand Theft Auto come to life: When an 11-year-old bought a video game Wednesday in Lake Charles, Louisiana, he opened the plastic case to find a bag of drugs. KPLC-TV reports that the boy's father returned to the store and called

police. Det. Rebecca Reed with the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office confirmed the substance was methamphetamine. Joey Mooring is director of public relations for GameStop. Mooring told the TV station that the Grapevine, Texas-based company checks used games for quality when customers trade them in. He also says games are checked again before being shipped to another store. The Lake Charles store manager says employees there typically don't examine games received from elsewhere in the company. Reed says GameStop told police it couldn't track the game's origin.

### Eastwood movie 'Sully' to open Telluride Film Festival

**TELLURIDE, Colo.** (AP)—Clint Eastwood's movie about the "Miracle on the Hudson" pilot will get its world premiere during the Telluride Film Festival. "Sully," starring Tom Hanks as pilot Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger, will open the 43rd annual festival on Friday night. Other films that will be shown include "Bleed for This," starring Miles Teller as the former

boxer Vinny Paz, and a modern musical romance called "La La Land" starring Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone. The festival will continue through Monday.

### Tweet NY Public Library an emoji, get a related image back

**NEW YORK** (AP)—While brainstorming ways to highlights its digital image archive, The New York Public Library came up with—the emoji bot. If you tweet an emoji to NYPL Emoji Bot (@NYPLEmoji), you will get an automatic reply with a related image from its vast digital collection. So if you tweet clinking beer glasses, you might get a response showing two people clinking wine glasses. An emoji of a birthday cake icon might generate an image of two people blowing out candles on a huge cake. The emoji project came about as the library sought to highlight its more than 694,000-item digital image archive. Digital Experience Producer Lauren Lampasone says it began with a spreadsheet of existing emoji characters and matching images added over several months.

## Amy Schumer had heckler ejected at Swedish show

**STOCKHOLM, Sweden**

(AP)—U.S. actress and stand-up comedian Amy Schumer asked venue to security to remove a heckler who shouted out a sexist comment during a live show in Sweden this week.

The video, posted on Schumer's YouTube tour channel,

shows the 35-year-old actress challenging the man and asking people in the audience to point him out.

After the man shouted a second comment, Schumer responded: "Did you just yell out again? Oh! Yeah, I'm sorry, now it's time."

Audience members clapped and cheered as the man was escorted out during the show on Wednesday.

Schumer has three more stops on the European leg of her tour, in Denmark and Britain, before heading back to the United States.

## 2 Fray members get writing credit on Chainsmokers' No. 1 hit

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Two members of the rock band The Fray are now credited as co-writers on The Chainsmokers' No. 1 smash, "Closer."

"Don't Let Me Down," "Rosie" and "Selfie."

"Closer" was also co-written by Taggart, Shaun Frank,



AP

This Aug. 13, 2012 file photo shows members of The Fray, from left, Joe King, Ben Wysocki, Isaac Slade and Dave Welsh on NBC's "Today" show in New York.

## Anglo woman using Spanish fears she may be out of line

**D**EAR ABBY: I am a retired librarian who lives in Texas. I am what around here is called "Anglo," meaning white and not Hispanic. I speak four languages, with varying degrees of proficiency.

Recently, a friend who is Hispanic told me that if an Anglo speaks Spanish to a Hispanic person, it's considered an insult because it implies that the Hispanic person is "too stupid" to learn English. I had never heard of this before, so I asked a retired college-level Spanish teacher who is also Anglo. She informed me that Hispanic people use the language difference as a "boundary," and my speaking Spanish to them was a violation of their boundaries.

It came as a complete shock! This happened more than a month ago, and I'm having a hard time dealing with it. I spent a lifetime developing language skills. I always considered speaking another language to be a sign of respect and friendship. Now I'm being told that it's insulting and intrusive?

I can't believe all Hispanic people feel this way, but I don't know what to do with this information. My next-door neighbors are Spanish-speaking. I've always spoken to them in Spanish because it's what I heard from them when I first met them. Now I don't know if I've been insulting them. What should I do?

IN SHOCK IN SAN ANTONIO

**DEAR IN SHOCK:** After reading your letter, I polled a focus group of Spanish-speaking friends about it. Some said it didn't bother them, but the majority explained that the reaction may depend upon how long the family has been in this country. If it has been several generations, the people you are addressing might identify more as English speakers than Spanish speakers, and consider your addressing them in Spanish to be condescending because it implies that you don't think they have learned English.

**So the rule of thumb would be:** Assume that everyone speaks English; then if it turns out they don't, use their language.

**P.S. If your relationship with your neighbors is a good one, tell them what you were told and ask if you may have offended them because if you have, you would like to apologize.**

**DEAR ABBY:** My wife, "Jennifer," and I just finished a project and I am so peeved. We usually get along well. That is, until we work together. Then I go from Dr. Jekyll to Mr. Hyde.

I spent 25 years in heavy industrial construction. I have also taken classes in woodworking and metal crafts. My wife has no building skills and no knowledge of how to use power tools. Yet, only minutes after we start, she becomes an engineer and starts telling me how to do things. When it happens, I explode with cursing and throwing things. The thing I yell the most of

## DEAR ABBY

**By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

*Dear Abby* is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



ten is, "If you know how to do it, why do you need me?!"

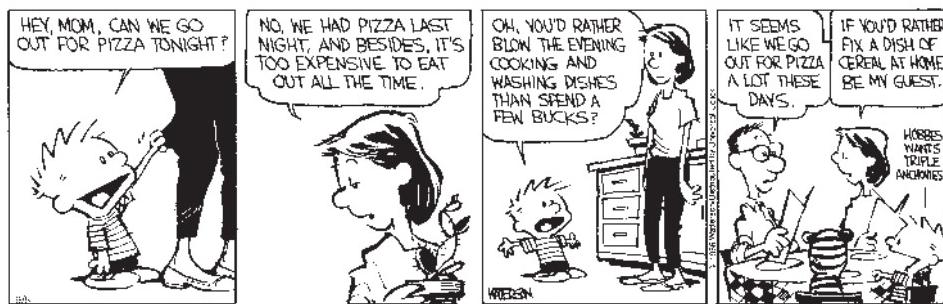
CAN'T WORK TOGETHER

**DEAR CAN'T:** Even though you're the expert, it appears your wife would like to offer some creative input. If you become so volatile that you lose control when working on projects with her, the obvious answer is to refrain from doing them together.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

## Garfield®



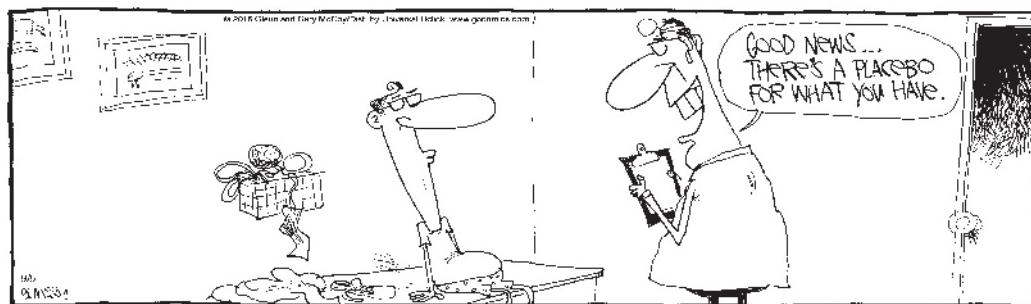
By Jim Davis

## Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

## The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	41	Burrow	23	Cabbage	Press for	salad	payment
1	Blond shade	43	Actress Long	3	Mata —	25	Nest setting
4	Bristle	44	Worry	4	Pub order	26	Clue
7	— Fiction"	46	Fire sign?	5	"Dragnet"	27	Diner sign
11	Hum-drum	50	Seized vehicle	53	Calendar abbr.	28	Paint layer
13	Meadow	55	Author Bagnold	6	Mogul	29	Paki-stan's lan-
14	On the briny	57	Done with	7	1992 film	12	Down guage
15	Irene of "Fame"	58	Away	8	Exploit	30	Check
16	Flow out	59	from NNW	9	Super-man foe	31	Plant seeds
17	Libretto	58	Locus	10	Bit of butter	35	Tonic's mixer
18	Marble cake pattern	59	Combo	12	Solo player	38	Sun. talk
20	Rude dude	60	Scratch (out)	13	in "Star Wars"	40	Insult, slangily
22	Flushed	61	Sawbuck	14	Walrus tooth	42	Rental contract
24	Carefree	DOWN		15	"Step —!"	45	Walrus tooth
28	Like a fictional monkey	1	Grade-school basics	16	48	47	48
32	Andrea —	19	Summer sign	17	Flying toy	Step	Flying toy
33	Raw minerals	21	Ancient	18	49	49	Paradise
34	Yule quaff	22		20	50	50	Steal
36	Circus structure	23		21	51	51	Steal
37	Francisco's farewell	24		22	52	52	Stock holder
39	Thingies	25		23	53	53	"Gosh!"
		26		24	54	54	
		27		25	55	55	
		28		26	56	56	
		29		27	57	57	
		30		28	58	58	
				29	59	59	
				30	60	60	
					61	61	



Friday's answer 9-5

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Rose McGowan, 43; Dweezil Zappa, 47; Michael Keaton, 65; Raquel Welch, 76.

**Happy Birthday:** Ask questions, be a participant and check out your options. Address problems at home diplomatically, but make it clear that changes will need to take place. A time frame should be established for your long-term plans. Set goals to accommodate your needs. This can be a year of change, but only you can make it happen. Your numbers are 6, 10, 19, 27, 33, 38, 45.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): A research trip will be successful. The information you gather along the way will help you solve a financial, medical or contractual issue. Don't let anyone bully you into doing something you don't agree with. **★☆☆**

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Keep an open mind when dealing with the people you have worked with in the past. Don't believe everything you hear. Filter information prior to making a decision. Be prepared for an unexpected change and keep moving forward. **★★★**

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): A frugal approach will be necessary if you don't want to break the bank. Overspending when you should be saving will be tempting due to the company you are keeping or the luxuries that entice you. Think before you act. **★★★**

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Expand your space at home to fit your needs. A creative outlet will help you avoid an emotional issue you might not be ready to deal with. Refuse to let anyone pressure you into

something you don't want to do. Get back to basics. **★★**

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Make changes based on the way you feel emotionally. Do what you must in order to feel good about who you are and what you want to do. Greater stability can be yours if you take action. Romance is featured. **★★★**

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep the peace at home and don't let emotional uncertainty bring you down. Take care of your responsibilities and stick to the truth when asked your opinion. If you offer too much information, you will be accused of meddling. **★★★**

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Being disciplined will lead to self-improvement. Do your best to achieve stellar health through physical fitness, eating properly and updating your look. Don't worry about what others say or do. Do what's best for you. **★★★**

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Personal changes at home will give you the freedom to engage in new projects and expand your creative endeavors. An emotional situation will spark your imagination and inspire you to do more to help others. Push for positive changes. **★★★**

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Someone's kindness could be tinged with insincerity. Look for ulterior motives. It's important not to end up owing someone for something you didn't want in the first place. Proceed with caution. Concentrate on personal improvements. **★★★**

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Expand your space at home to fit your needs. A creative outlet will help you avoid an emotional issue you might not be ready to deal with. Refuse to let anyone pressure you into

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take the high road and do what comes naturally, and you will reach your goal. Avoid physical injury or illness by not taking risks. Be sure to get the rest you need to remain healthy. **★★★★**

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Stay focused on what will bring you the highest returns. Don't let your emotions come between you and making a good decision. Change can be good, but it has to be what you want, not what someone else pressures you to do. **★★**

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): You'll come up with a good way to cut corners or make your money grow. A partnership with someone will encourage you to improve your sense of financial responsibility. Do what you can to improve your standard of living. **★★★★**

**Birthday Baby:** You are practical, open-minded and proactive. You are adaptable and caring.

Eugenia's website—[eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com), Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](http://twitter/facebook/linkedin).

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

9	2	4						
1	9		3	4				
		8		5				
6	7		1	4				
9		8	5	6				1
	5	9			6	3		
2		1						
4	9		3			6		
	7	4		2				

Difficulty Level ★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer

7	6	2	4	1	3	8	9	5
4	3	8	2	9	5	1	7	6
9	5	1	6	7	8	4	2	3
5	8	4	9	3	2	7	6	1
2	7	6	5	8	1	9	3	4
1	9	3	7	4	6	2	5	8
6	4	5	1	2	9	3	8	7
3	2	7	8	6	4	5	1	9
8	1	9	3	5	7	6	4	2

Difficulty Level ★★★★

## WONDERWORD

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle—horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

FIGHTING A SPEEDING TICKET

Solution: 9 letters

G	P	T	L	O	W	E	R	H	T	I	M	D	A	H
N	O	A	T	E	S	T	I	F	Y	L	○	N	N	O
I	L	E	Y	N	A	R	G	U	E	A	Ⓐ	O	O	S
V	I	B	E	M	E	V	O	R	P	G	Ⓣ	P	I	P
I	C	F	R	A	E	P</td								

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**EMPLOYMENT**

care operations (e.g. medical billing, patient electronic records and scheduler) and accounting software. Interested individuals please submit resume to: Emelda M. Ito, Accountant/Personnel In-Charge, Hardt Eye Clinic, Inc. dba Hardt Eye Clinic; Diabetes Education Center located next to Monika's Furniture Beach Road, Chalan Laulau, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; or send by facsimile (670) 235-2033; or by e-mail to hardteye.acctg@gmail.com. WE ARE AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

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WHATZIT Solution: Half-hearted

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# WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

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## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

It is the policy of the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) to limit hiring to qualified US workers, as restricted by CNMI law, and that equal opportunity be given to all qualified US worker applicants regardless of age, sex or sexual orientation, religion, marital status, political status, veterans status, disability or place of origin.

**Opening Date: 08/26/16**

**Closing Date: 09/09/16\***

**POSITION TITLE:**  
PAY LEVEL:  
ANNUAL SALARY:  
LOCATION:

**STATISTICS SPECIALIST I**  
25/01 – 25/08  
\$17,700.92 - \$24,889.35\*\*  
Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

**POSITION TITLE:**  
PAY LEVEL:  
ANNUAL SALARY:  
LOCATION:

**STATISTICS SPECIALIST II**  
27/01 – 27/08  
\$ 19,511.46 - \$27,437.44\*\*  
Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

\*If not filled, the vacancy announcement will be continued and applications will be reviewed every two weeks thereafter until the search is closed. Deadlines that fall on a non-business day will be extended to the next business day.

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Interested persons may contact the Marianas Visitors Authority Office at (670) 664-3200/01 for more detailed information on position description. A completed application must be submitted together with the required documents for consideration until search is closed. A resume may be attached, but the application form must be filled out in full. MVA is an equal opportunity employer.

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Application forms may be obtained at the HRD Office, Kanoa Resort. Interested applicants may also send their resumes to hr@kanoaresort.com

To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than September 5, 2016. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

**Kanoa Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer  
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.**

# Serena sets record Grand Slam match victory

**NEW YORK** (AP)—So about that inflamed right shoulder that was supposed to hinder Serena Williams at the U.S. Open as she seeks a record 23rd major title: It sure seems to be just fine.

"Definitely feels solid," Williams said.

Not sure? There's plenty of evidence. No need to take her word—or her coach's—for it.

Look at the way Williams beat 47th-ranked Johanna Larsson 6-1, 6-1 on Saturday to reach the fourth round at Flushing Meadows and collect the 307th Grand Slam match victory of her career, surpassing Martina Navratilova for most by a woman in the Open era and equaling Roger Federer for most by anyone since 1968.

Williams reached 121 mph on a serve. She had a half-dozen aces, bringing her total this week to 31. She faced only one break point - her first of the tournament—and saved it. She smacked seven return winners. She compiled a 24-5 total edge in winners.

"Tennis-wise, I think it was very satisfying in all aspects. It's not perfect, of course," said her coach, Patrick Mouratoglou. "But for someone who didn't play much matches in the last two months, I think she's competitive."



AP  
Serena Williams of the United States returns a shot to Johanna Larsson of Sweden during the third round of the U.S. Open tennis tournament, Saturday, Sept. 3, 2016, in New York.

Now there's an understatement.

"There is no pain. Maybe she feels a little. I don't know;

I'm not in her shoulder. But I see she plays normal. She serves normal. At practice, she serves the quantity that we

usually do, full power," Mouratoglou said. "So I don't see any problem. And she doesn't even talk about it. I know it's

under control now."

That sounds like bad news for upcoming opponents, starting with 52nd-ranked Yaroslava Shvedova, who advanced to the round of 16 in New York for the first time by beating Zhang Shuai 6-2, 7-5.



Monday's other fourth-round women's matchups will be Williams' older sister Venus vs. No. 10 Karolina Pliskova, No. 5 Simona Halep vs. No. 11 Carla Suarez Navarro, and No. 4 Agnieszka Radwanska vs. Ana Konjuh. Venus Williams advanced comfortably Saturday night by beating No. 26 Laura Siegemund 6-1, 6-2. In that half of the draw, only the players with the last name Williams have won a Grand Slam title; the sisters could meet in the semifinals a year after Serena eliminated Venus in the quarters.

Two past men's champions, Andy Murray and Juan Martin del Potro, moved into the fourth round.

Murray, who won the 2012 U.S. Open, had trouble in each of the first two sets, but eventually became more patient during baseline exchanges and took control for a 7-6 (4), 5-7, 6-2, 6-3 victory over Paolo Lorenzi. Murray joins Kyle Edmund - who won Friday to set up a match against No. 1 Novak Djokovic - to give Britain two men in the round of 16 at the American Grand Slam tournament for the first time since 1966,

when it was known as the U.S. Championships.

A third British man, Dan Evans, came within a point of also making the fourth round but failed to complete what would have been a significant upset, fading in a 4-6, 6-3, 6-7 (6), 7-6 (8), 6-2 loss to No. 3 Stan Wawrinka. Evans held a match point at 6-5 in the fourth-set tiebreaker, but Wawrinka erased it, then took that set and raced to a 4-0 lead in the fifth.

Wawrinka next faces 63rd-ranked Illya Marchenko, who advanced when No. 14 Nick Kyrgios quit because of injury while trailing two sets to one.

There's only one American man left: Jack Sock, who faces No. 9 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga on Sunday. That's because 19-year-old qualifier Jared Donaldson's run ended with a straight-set loss to 37-year-old Ivo Karlovic, the oldest man to reach the fourth round in New York since Jimmy Connors was 39 in 1991. Karlovic plays No. 6 Kei Nishikori next.

Del Potro's resurgence continued with a 7-6 (3), 6-2, 6-3 victory over No. 11 David Ferrer. The 2009 champion in New York missed 2 1/2 years' worth of major tournaments because of three operations on his left wrist, and he's ranked only 142nd, which is why he needed a wild-card invitation to get into the field.

Williams is 4-0 against Shvedova, who is best known for the first "golden

set" in the Open era, which began in 1968: She won all 24 points of the first set against Sara Errani at Wimbledon in 2012.

"She's dangerous," Mouratoglou said. "But I think Serena is even more dangerous."

Larsson would probably agree.

"You're out there, you're trying to find ways to win," Larsson said, "but sometimes, it's just not happening."

Mouratoglou said Williams' shoulder began bothering her a day or two after Wimbledon, where she teamed with Venus to win doubles and tied Steffi Graf's Open-era record with Grand Slam singles title No. 22.

This was Williams' first daytime match of the U.S. Open, so she debuted a new outfit—a white dress accessorized with neon pink compression wraps on her arms, which she called "my 'Wonder Woman' sleeves."

"I feel this design, in particular, really is kind of like a superhero design," Williams said. "Like a really powerful, strong character that is strong, but yet isn't afraid to be soft at the same time."

## Bradford trade overshadows NFL cutdowns



**PHILADELPHIA** (AP)—

Trades overshadowed cuts Saturday as NFL teams got down to the 53-man limit for the regular season.

Minnesota made the biggest noise with a major strike, replacing injured quarterback Teddy Bridgewater by acquiring Sam Bradford from Philadelphia in a deal as stunning for its timing as for who was involved.

Bradford, the No. 1 overall draft pick in 2010 by the Rams, was ensconced as the Eagles' starter and signed a lucrative two-year contract. But the Vikings, sensing they still could contend for the NFC title after winning the NFC North last year, parted with a first-round pick next year and a fourth-rounder in 2018 for, basically, one season of Bradford as a starter. When, that is, Bradford has learned Norv Turner's offense.

"This was not part of the blueprint, but we have to take advantage of opportunities that are presented to us," Eagles personnel boss Howie Roseman said. "We did not go into this wanting to trade Sam Bradford, but after the offer they made, we felt this

was the best move for our football team."

With the NFL draft being staged in Philadelphia in April, was a nice added touch for the Eagles to get a first-rounder, which they previously lacked.

Another former first-rounder was dealt, but Justin Gilbert hardly has a track record in the NFL. The eighth overall selection in 2014 went from Cleveland to Pittsburgh, which has issues at cornerback. All Gilbert brought back to the Browns in a rare trade among division rivals was a sixth-round draft pick in 2018.

Kansas City traded corner Marcus Cooper to Arizona for an undisclosed draft pick, then sent wide receiver Rod Streater and an undisclosed pick to San Francisco for another undisclosed selection. San Francisco sent safety L.J. McCray to Seattle for an undisclosed draft pick in another intradivision deal.

The Cowboys are adding quarterback Mark Sanchez as the backup to rookie Dak Prescott while Tony Romo recovers from a back injury. A person with knowledge of the agreement told The Associated Press on Saturday that Sanchez had agreed to a one-year contract that could

drafted straight from Europe. But he was released Saturday.

Among those released were Broncos quarterback Mark Sanchez, who immediately reached a deal with Dallas; Denver teammates RB Ronnie Hillman and DT Henry Melton; Ravens RB Justin Forsett, a Pro Bowler two years ago; Packers G Josh Sitton, a starter for the last seven seasons and a three-time Pro Bowler; Arizona DT Red Bryant and LB Donald Butler; WR Cecil Shorts III and safety Antonio Allen by Houston; RB Daniel Thomas by Miami; Jets CB Dee Milliner, a 2013 first-rounder; and Redskins DL Cullen Jenkins.

Houston activated three-time NFL Defensive Player of the Year J.J. Watt (back) and OT Duane Brown from the physically unable to perform list. Cleveland signed punter Britton Colquitt, who was released by Denver.

The Cowboys are adding quarterback Mark Sanchez as the backup to rookie Dak Prescott while Tony Romo recovers from a back injury.

Minnesota made history in April when it selected wide receiver Moritz Bohringer of Germany, who became the first player in NFL history

be worth \$2.5 million with incentives. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the contract can't be signed until Sunday.

Sanchez reached a deal with the Cowboys the same day he was released by Denver as all NFL teams had to get their rosters to the 53-man limit for the regular season. Sanchez's release cleared him to join any team.

The six-year veteran was acquired by the Broncos in the offseason after Peyton Manning retired and Brock Osweiler bolted to Houston in free agency. But the 29-year-old Sanchez couldn't beat out second-year pro Trevor Siemian, a seventh-round pick in 2015 from Northwestern.

Dallas has to decide whether to place Romo on the injured reserve-return list after he broke a bone in his back in a preseason game at Seattle. Romo would miss the first seven games if he's on that list, and Sanchez could take that roster spot.

The Cowboys placed running back Darren McFadden on the non-football injury list, sidelining their leading rusher from last season for at least the first six games. He broke his right elbow during the offseason.

# Mets top Nationals to keep wild card hopes alive

**NEW YORK** (AP)—A sign above the doorway at one end of the Mets' clubhouse reads: Do Your Thing.

Sage advice for the defending NL champs down the stretch—no matter who is on the mound.

Curtis Granderson and James Loney came through with big hits to back Robert Gsellman, and New York got another gritty start from an unheralded rookie in its banged-up rotation to beat the Washington Nationals 3-1 on Saturday night.

"We've asked a lot of some young players and they have stepped up," Mets manager Terry Collins said. "If you would have told me in April that I'm going to look out on the field and I'm going to have three players that were in our opening day lineup and four rookie pitchers to win a game, I'd tell you you're out of your mind."

Gsellman (2-1) pitched out of trouble for six innings, and inexperienced center fielder Michael Conforto made a diving catch that thwarted a potential Nationals rally in the seventh.

New York rebounded from consecutive losses and won for the 10th time in 14 games, moving within one game of St. Louis for the final NL playoff berth.

"We're right there," Loney said. "This is what we play for."

## Giants 3, Cubs 2

In Chicago, Madison Bumgarner outpitched Jake Arrieta with 10 strikeouts over six innings, and the San Francisco Giants pounced on rare missteps by the Chicago Cubs.

Bumgarner (14-8) allowed two runs and five hits in his fourth victory in his last five starts. San Francisco, trying to catch Los Angeles in the NL West, rebounded from a pair of one-run losses in the first two games of the four-game set against the major league leaders.

## Rangers 12, Astros 4

In Arlington, Adrian Beltre and Nomar Mazara each homered, Derek Holland pitched his third straight quality start since coming off the disabled list and Texas got its seventh straight victory.

After trailing 1-0, the Rangers got their major league-high 42nd come-from-behind win. They've won eight of nine and scored at least 10 runs in each of their past three games.

## Orioles 2, Yankees 0

In Baltimore, Kevin Gausman outpitched CC Sabathia for



**AP** New York Mets Travis d'Arnaud (18) loses his helmet as he runs past third base coach Tim Teufel (11) to score on New York Mets first baseman James Loney's double in the sixth inning of a baseball game against the Washington Nationals, Saturday, Sept. 3, 2016, in New York.

didn't walk a batter.

## Braves 6, Phillies 4, 10 innings

In Philadelphia, Adonis Garcia scored the winning run in the 10th inning after homering twice earlier in the game, and Atlanta beat Philadelphia.

Jed Bradley (1-0) got the win in his major league debut. He threw one scoreless inning and had a strikeout.

## Angels 10, Mariners 3

In Seattle, Kole Calhoun and Albert Pujols both homered twice, Mike Trout also went deep and Los Angeles beat Seattle.

Calhoun, Trout and Pujols hit consecutive home runs to lead a six-run first inning against starter Taijuan Walker (4-10).

## Diamondbacks 9, Rockies 4

In Denver, Chris Owings had a career high-tying four hits, Jake Lamb homered and Arizona beat Colorado.

Braden Shipley (3-3) allowed four runs in 5 1/3 innings in his first time facing Colorado.

The Diamondbacks broke it open in the third off Tyler Chatwood (10-9). Wellington Castillo had a three-run double and Lamb followed with his 27th homer to make it 6-0.

## Reds 9, Cardinals 1

In Cincinnati, Zack Cozart hit a pair of doubles during run-scoring innings that included St. Louis misplays, and Cincinnati sent the Cardinals to their third straight loss.

The Cardinals have lost seven of 11. They're still in position to get the NL's second wild-card spot, staying ahead of the Mets, Pirates and Marlins.

## Twins 11, White Sox 3

In Minneapolis, Miguel Sano and Trevor Plouffe each homered during an eight-run third inning, and Minnesota went deep four times.

Brian Dozier led off with his 34th homer, and Byron Buxton tacked on a two-run

shot in the second against beleaguered starter James Shields (5-17).

## Dodgers 5, Padres 1

In Los Angeles, Rich Hill pitched six sparkling innings, Yasmani Grandal hit a three-run homer and Los Angeles beat San Diego.

Hill (11-3) allowed one hit, struck out eight and walked two in his second start since the Dodgers acquired him from Oakland at the Aug. 1 trade deadline. The left-hander was scratched at Colorado last week due to a combination of weather and a finger blister.

## Brewers 7, Pirates 4

In Pittsburgh, struggling rookie Orlando Arcia had three

hits, including a tiebreaking single in Milwaukee's four-run eighth inning, to extend Pittsburgh's losing streak to five games.

Pittsburgh's Neftali Feliz (4-2) was charged with two runs, retiring only one of the three batters before leaving with right arm discomfort.

## Red Sox 11, Athletics 2

In Oakland, Rick Porcello didn't allow a baserunner until Jake Smolinski's one-out double in the sixth on the way to his majors-leading 19th victory, and Boston routed Oakland yet again.

Porcello (19-3) gave up four hits and two runs in seven innings, struck out two and

## Chappell leads at TPC, boosts chances for first PGA win

**NORTON, Mass.** (AP)—Kevin Chappell made six birdies and an eagle Saturday and wound up with the lead at the Deutsche Bank Championship.

Nothing brought out more emotion than his only bogey.

Chappell missed the green well to the right on the 13th hole and with a far right pin, he didn't have much of a shot. He tried to chip it up the hill, only it came up short. He tried a flop that didn't quite stay on the green. And all he could think about was last week at Bethpage Black.

Chappell was in reasonable shape late in the second round at The Barclays when he finished bogey-double bogey-bogey. Instead of being one shot behind, he dropped four shots in three holes. At the TPC Boston, he wondered if he was headed down the same road.

Not this time. Chappell holed the 15-foot bogey putt, added two birdies and closed out a 7-under 64 for a one-shot lead at the halfway point.

"I was fighting some internal demons there," Chappell said. "I couldn't help but recall the same situation last Friday. To know that, refer to it and then not let it happen again is huge, and that's why you saw the emotion from me."

He was at 11-under 131, one shot ahead of PGA champion Jimmy Walker (64) and Paul Casey (66).

Dustin Johnson was poised to join Chappell in the lead until his long iron on the 18th sailed well right into the trees. He had to take a penalty drop, hit wedge on to about 45 feet and then three-putted for a



double bogey. He still shot 66 and was three behind.

At least he still has a chance.

Phil Mickelson missed the cut for only the second time in a FedEx Cup playoff event, making a double bogey on his final hole for a 72. Jason Day, the world No. 1, took a quadruple-bogey 8 on the fifth hole and rallied to make the cut on the number.

The cut was at 1-under 141.

Also missing the cut was Bubba Watson, still hopeful of a captain's pick for the Ryder Cup. Justin Thomas also is trying to make a case, and Saturday didn't help the cause. His good start was wasted by a 40 on the back nine, which included two balls in the water for a triple bogey on the par-3 16th, and

he wound up missing the cut.

Chappell nearly threw away a shot at the end. After a good drive on the 18th, he watched players in the group ahead struggle from the left of the green. Chappell figured his best chance was to lay up, but he hit it weak, the ball caught a gust of wind and it landed in the thick collar of a pot bunker.

His next shot made up for it, a wedge that jumped on him but still had enough height to settle about 15 feet away for par.

Chappell already has three runner-up finishes this summer (two of them to Day). He is patient about his prospect for that first PGA Tour victory, and it helps that he's having a career season. At No. 13 in the FedEx Cup, he is all but set to reach the Tour Championship for the first time.

# US routs St. Vincent in World Cup qualifier

**JACKSONVILLE, Fla.** (AP)—Matt Besler got back to the U.S. team hotel after training on the eve of the United States' World Cup qualifier at St. Vincent and the Grenadines when his cellphone came to life.

"I had a message from my wife just saying, call me ASAP, and I had that feeling that something was happening," he said.

Back in Kansas City, Kansas, Amanda Besler felt her water break and went into labor two weeks early. On a Caribbean island, there was no way Matt Besler could return home quickly for the arrival of his first child.

Parker Rhea Besler was born at about 6:45 a.m. local time Friday. About nine hours later her daddy scored his first international goal, helping the United States to a 6-0 win that moved the Americans into prime position to advance to the final round of World Cup qualifying.

"I always knew that it was a risk coming down here," the 29-year-old Sporting Kansas City defender said. "At the same time, you have



In this file photo, United States' Matt Besler, right, and Ecuador's Enner Valencia fight for the ball during a Copa America Centenario quarterfinal soccer match, Thursday, June 16, 2016 at CenturyLink Field in Seattle. Besler scored in the U.S.' rout of St. Vincent and the Grenadines in the World Cup qualifier last weekend. AP

to live your life and come down here. There was about a 48-hour window where I knew that I was pretty much here and stuck here just due to the travel conditions. It would have been impossible to get back in time, and that's why I decided to stay. I was

just going to try to make the best of it, and I'll get to meet my baby girl soon enough."

Christian Pulisic, the Americans' 17-year-old attacker, entered in the second half and scored twice off passes from Sacha Kljestan. Pulisic also set up Kljestan's first goal for

the national team in six years.

Bobby Wood scored in the 28th minute, Besler doubled the lead in the 32nd and Jozy Altidore converted a penalty kick in the 43rd as the Americans built a 3-0 halftime lead at the Arnos Vale cricket ground.

Besler, who has three goals

for Kansas City since joining the team in 2009, was making his 36th international appearance. He scored when MLS teammate Graham Zusi lofted a free kick, and Nazir McBarnette's headed clearance attempt went toward the defender. Besler chested the ball and knocked it in with his left foot from about 4 yards.

"For whatever reason, I could feel the ball gravitate to me at the back post, so I was ready for

The 26th-ranked United States (3-1-1) is second in Group C behind Trinidad and Tobago (3-0-2), which tied visiting Guatemala (2-2-1) later Friday. With a plus-13 goal difference to Guatemala's plus-1, the Americans are virtually assured of reaching the final round hexagonal in North and Central America and the Caribbean when they host Trinidad on Tuesday at Jacksonville, Florida.



## Guam Ko'ko Road Races set for Oct. 30



The Guam Visitors Bureau (GVB) has announced the 11th Annual Guam Ko'ko' Road Races is now set for Halloween weekend at Governor Joseph Flores Memorial (Ypao Beach) Park. With an increased focus on entertainment for each race course, which consists of a half marathon, ekiden relay and the new 10K run/walk, the Ko'ko' Road Races will be considered Guam's most fun run in 2016. This year's event set for Oct. 30 will also incorporate a costume theme and contest that will reward solo and relay runners for the most original, best superhero, or scariest costumes with cash prizes.

"The addition of the costume contest is an added incentive for our international and local runners to come together and celebrate the eleventh year of our GVB signature event," said GVB president and CEO Nathan Denight. "We look

forward to Ko'ko' Weekend because it caters to the entire family and takes sports tourism on island to new heights. We highly encourage all runners to register, learn more about our endemic Ko'ko' bird and run in costume to win big."

A Post Race Monster Bash will begin immediately for participants and the public after runners complete the course, with vendors and live entertainment rounding out the Ko'ko' festivities at Governor Joseph Flores Memorial (Ypao Beach) Park.

GVB also selected three new runners to be the official 2016 ambassadors for the Ko'ko' Road Race. Also known as the "Ko'ko' Krazies," the masked ambassadors will be training in the heart of Tumon until the event this October. The Ko'ko' Krazies will be dressed in one of the three costume categories for the race—Most Original, Best Superhero and Scariest. Runners are encouraged to run

with the Krazies, snap a photo and upload it to the event's Facebook page (@guamkokoroadrace) or GVB's Instagram (@visitguamusa) with the hashtag #kokotraining for a chance to win a free limited edition Ko'ko' training tee, while supplies last.

The Guam Ko'ko' Road Races includes three dynamic and distinct races in one—a half marathon course, a 10K Run/Walk course and a four-person Ekiden Relay race. From start to finish, the race courses will be filled with lively cheering groups, water stops and entertainment. The Guam Ko'ko' Kids Fun Run will offer races for three specific age groups—a 3K for 10 to 12-year-olds, 2K for 7 to 9-year-olds and 1K for 4 to 6-year-olds the day before or on October 29. Space is limited to the first 500 registrants. Each finisher will receive a t-shirt and finisher's medal.

The Ko'ko' Road Races help support the plight of Guam's

territorial bird, the Guam rail or ko'ko' bird—a flightless bird endemic to Guam. Race organizers work closely with the Department of Agriculture, Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources to raise awareness for the ko'ko' bird. Che'lu is the official mascot for the Guam Rail and will be found interacting with children, big and small, to heighten their knowledge of the ko'ko' bird.

Online registration is open at [guamkokoroadrace.com](http://guamkokoroadrace.com). Follow the Guam Ko'ko' Road Races and Guam Visitors Bureau on Facebook (@guamkokoroadrace), Instagram (@visitguamusa), Twitter and Snapchat (@visitguam) for the latest event updates and exclusive online promotions. This GVB event is proudly sponsored by KUAM, United Airlines, Pacific Islands Club, T Galleria by DFS, Project Inspire, Powerade, Fruita Plus and the Pacific Daily News. (PR)

## FIESTA

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ley's nailed only four triples—a far cry from the 11 it buried in its 57-38 victory over JP Mambas last week. Aaron Pamintuan, who converted six treys in their victory over JP Mambas, was held to 4 points versus Fiesta, making only one field goal.

Shirley's had a lackluster offense midway in the first half, while Fiesta was on tar-

get right at the get-go and hit shots everywhere, allowing the defending champion to take a commanding 45-20 halftime advantage.

Paul Quizon, Jarette Matsutaro, Elmer Esdrelon, and Fradel Sedillo worked together to lift Fiesta to the double-digit lead after the first half. Quizon started things off for his team, scoring 8, while Esdrelon also heated up early, knocking in three triples. Matsutaro and Sedillo finished strong for Fi-

esta in the first half, combining for 13 of the team's last 15 markers in that period.

The lead ballooned to as high 52 in the second half, as Fiesta's offensive firepower proved too much for Shirley's, which had difficulty finding players to back up Jugos. Shirley's played in the playoffs without big man and scorer Eric Dela Rosa, who left for the U.S. late last month.

Matsutaro paced Fiesta's lopsided win, tallying 16, while

Quizon and Tanner Maratita chipped in 14 and 11, respectively.

**Fiesta 94** — Matsutaro 16, Quizon 14, Maratita 11, Sedillo 9, Esdrelon 9, Lavarias 8, Demafelix 7, Macoto 6, Vilalamena 6, Reyes 4, Nonato 4.

**Shirley's 44** — Jugos 18, Drilon 6, Nicdao 4, Pollico 4, Palma 4, Pamintuan 4, Bordon 2, Sabino 2.

**Scoring by halves:** 45-20, 94-44.

Quizon and Tanner Maratita chipped in 14 and 11, respectively.

third-ranked India (2-0-1), while Malaysia (1-0-2) collides against the Philippines in the penultimate match in the group.

In other results, Thailand is still undefeated in three games in Group A, while Laos (3-0-1) is in second place to remain in contention for a slot to the finals. Though only the top finisher in the pool will get the finals ticket, Laos can still

make it, as Thailand has already won a spot to the finals along with China, North Korea, and Japan. Laos' rival for the finals ticket is Myanmar, which holds a 2-0-1 slate.

In Group C, Bangladesh is ahead with its 4-0-0 card against the identical 3-0-1 marks of Iran and Chinese-Taipei. In Group D, Australia has secured a finals berth as it finished the pool with an unblemished 5-0-0 record. Vietnam placed second with its 4-0-1 slate.

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round of the winner's bracket. The U.S. District Court was NIMO's next victim, while a victory over Commonwealth Utilities Corp. gave the eventual champion the first finals ticket and the twice-to-beat advantage that went with it.

CUC, which arranged a meeting with NIMO for the first finals berth after topping DPS, 25-19, 25-21, dropped to the loser's bracket. CUC and DPS went on to collide anew for the last finals seat. DPS prevailed over Northern Marianas College and U.S. District Court to remain in contention and challenge CUC for a ride to the finals. DPS managed to deny CUC's another attempt to make

## CNMI

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# 2016 Sun Palace Badminton Team Tournament

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



White Team's Chris Hilario steps in for a return near the net during his and Nate Guerrero's doubles game against Pink Team's Rodwealth Espana and Jojo Savellano in the 2016 Sun Palace Badminton Team Tournament held last at the TSL Sports Complex.



Nate Guerrero goes for a backhand return.



Rodwealth Espana makes a low shot, while teammate Jojo Savellano gets ready at the backline.



Blue Team's Deether Edralin returns to Pink Team's Daniel Macario.



Red Team's Vilma Reyes steps sideways for a return to Team White's Jordan Pangilinan and Malou Malasarte.



Red Team's Rowena Sison receives a shot from White Team's Nicole Malasarte.



Pink Team's Cheng Saturno bends for a return.



Black Team's Jaja Bocago follows through her return over Pink Team's Cheng Saturno.



Serena sets  
record Grand  
Slam match  
victory

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Mets top  
Nationals to  
keep wild card  
hopes alive

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## CNMI gets second goal in last game

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

The CNMI U16 Girls National Team scored in its final game in the AFC U16 Women's Championships 2017 Qualifier last Saturday at the Luneng Football School in Weifang, China.

Guinevere Borja found the back of the net in the 34th minute to avert another shutdown for the CNMI, which failed to hit the board against the Philippines and South Korea after getting one goal in its debut (versus Malaysia) in the qualifier.

With Borja converting her shot, the Commonwealth bets were just down by one against



India at the break, 1-2. India drew its two goals from forwards Soumya Guguloth and Renu, who lit up the board in the 16th and 24th minute, respectively. Guguloth also scored in the second half (67th minute), while India's other goal in the final 45 minutes of play came from another forward, Karishma.

Borja made his fourth start in as many games for the CNMI and was joined in the starting 11 by goalie Toremy Diaz, Princess Alcantara, Jerlyn Castillo, Anela Dueñas, Samantha Manacop,

Lyka and Leisha Sally, Esther Jones, Gillian Villagomez, and Franchesca Bucalig. Ericka Santiago, Jobelle Tabuena, and Patricia Surima were the substitutes.

Meanwhile, South Korea blanked the Philippines, 7-0, in the other Group B game last Saturday.

With the win, South Korea improved its win-draw-loss record to 3-0-0, while the Philippines fell to a 2-0-1 mark.

The South Koreans are likely to rule the group and win a slot to the finals. The pool leaders will play their last game today against the

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI U16 Girls National Team players and officials huddle before their game against India in the AFC U16 Women's Championships 2017 Qualifier last Saturday at the Luneng Football School in Weifang, China.

## NIMO rules Labor Day v-ball tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



Northern Islands Mayor's Office bagged the championship in the CNMI Labor Day Indoor Volleyball Tournament held last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

NIMO topped the 14-team competition after sweeping Department of Public Safety in the last Friday's finale, 25-22, 25-22. Ben Olopai and Freddie Pelisamen's powerful spikes off Valentino Taisacan's good setup jobs allowed NIMO to close out the title match early. NIMO, with its unbeaten record in the winner's bracket of the double-elimination playoffs, needed to win only once in the finals to rule the tournament that started last Wednesday.

NIMO went on to wrap up the finals right in Game 1 with the towering Olopai scoring the last two points for the winning squad. His return, which DPS anticipated to be a strong kill, turned out to be a tap with the ball dropping in front at an unguarded spot, moving NIMO within a point of taking the championship, 24-21. The high-leaping Pelisamen then attempted to end the match when he soared high near the net off a toss from Taisacan, but the former's spike was too strong and went off the sideline.

Pelisamen's error kept DPS'

hopes alive, but not for long, as after a couple of returns, Taisacan set up Olopai for a spike. This time, the ball was in, dropping to the center of the backline with no DPS de-

fender to receive it.

NIMO, aside from its finals win over DPS, recorded four other victories in the playoffs. It notched its first triumph over the Department of Com-

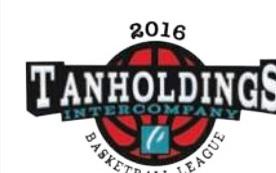
munity and Cultural Affairs and then downed Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation to advance to the third

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
NIMO's Ben Olopai leaps for a spike during the second set of their title game against DPS in the CNMI Labor Day Indoor Volleyball Tournament held Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



Fiesta Resort & Spa will have a chance to defend its title in the 2016 Tan Holdings Inter-Company Basketball League after pummeling Shirley's Coffee Shop, 94-44, in last Friday's playoff match at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Fiesta, which topped three of the four editions of the league, including the last two, will face the undefeated and heavily favored Kanoa Resort in this Friday's championship showdown. Kanoa, with its unbeaten mark in the double-elimination playoffs, has a twice-to-beat advantage in the title duel.

A balance scoring in its do-or-die game against Shirley's allowed Fiesta to take the easy win and set up a finals meeting against Kanoa. Three Fiesta players broke into double figures, while eight others made it to the board and contributed at least 4 points each.

As for the Shirley's side,

## Fiesta returns to finals



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan's Paul Quizon goes up for an acrobatic shot against Shirley's Coffee Shop's Jerome Pollisco during the first half of their playoff game in the Tan Holdings caging last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

only John Jugos consistently knocked in 18 markers. Shirley's

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